

Government and Partner Relations Committee

0800 Thursday, 19 February 2009

Call to order by R/C William E. Husted, SN

Introduction of Committee Members in Attendance

P/V/C Robert P. David, SN	Stf/C Richard Gercak, AP	P/R/C Robert D. Holub, SN
R/C William E. Husted, SN	P/N/Fl/Lt Dick Jarmon, SN	D/Lt/C Mary Ann Jensen, JN
Stf/C Gregory E. Korstad, AP	D/Lt. Howard Manly, AP	D/Lt/C Artemas M. Pickard, SN
P/D/C Sandra w. Pierog, SN	D/Lt. Frank A. Radomsky, AP	P/C/C Theodore H. Smith, SN
D/C Danny Tompkins, JN	P/R/C Gene R. VanRhee, SN	P/R/C John P. Wilson, AP

Guests: Lt/C John Malatak, AP – USCG Liaison
Penny Burke – Citizen Corps

Introduction of the incoming second Assistant Committee Chairman, Stf/C Sandra Pierog, SN

Approval of Detroit Committee Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the Detroit meeting were approved as presented.

GPRCommittee Update – R/C William E. Husted

R/C Husted presented an overview of Committee membership and activities:

- Legislative representatives for Oklahoma and Hawaii will soon be established.
- An affiliate agreement with Citizen Corps will be signed on Saturday.
- Strategic plan updates: only two of 5 have been completed. Others need to be completed as soon as possible.
- Partner Assignments: The NASBLA Position will be vacant since Jim Roeber is resigning from that responsibility.
- The most important activities of this past year include the Citizen Corps affiliate agreement, expansion of the legislative team and initial attempts to develop a Lobbying Policy.

There was discussion of the Liaison and Homeland Security functions. It was recommended that there be a Homeland Security listing in National Directory.

Team Activity Reports

The report of the Liaison Team is attached at the end of these minutes.

The Website will include a partnerships listing.

State Legislative Update – Stf/C Gercak asked for reports by region.

D/C Danny Tompkins reported that the Thurmond Lake Sail & Power Squadron on the South Carolina Georgia border sent letter to Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) regarding lake levels because of drought in area. There is a continuing 15 year argument regarding Chattahoochee River. This river flows through three states. There are court suits in special courts. The Lake Lanier water levels are down 15 feet. The argument is with the Savannah District Corps of Engineers. It appears the most important thing to ACOE flood control even in a drought.

Updates were suspended as V/C Frank Dvorak joined the meeting.

V/C Dvorak discussed decisions made this week by the Operating Committee and the Board of Directors.

1. USPS must be run like a business. The plan is to write the Operating Committee out of organizational structure as it is redundant with the Board of Directors.
2. The 2009 budget in the red by about \$181,000. USPS must change from dues based to market based.
3. There are too many committees. These must be reduced. If not reduced, the organization will die. This reduction will cause a certain amount of grief.
4. USPS is cutting expenses where ever possible.
5. Market based organizations are working in Europe. (P/V/C David agreed.)
6. Cruisers, trailer boaters, and sailors are the market.
7. USPS must offer courses to non-members. Possibly present the courses at Community Colleges. This should bring out the better qualified instructors; However, USPS may have to provide training for the instructors.
8. There will be emphasis placed on selling the books.
9. Squadrons can offer on the water helmsmanship.
10. Squadrons can sign people up as members at boat shows.
11. The signup procedures on internet will be changing. The plan is to charge average district and squadron dues and treat the new members as members at large (unattached) until a Squadron signs them up.

State Legislative Update (continued)

P/R/C Gene VanRhee provided the State Legislative Western District report. The California Legislature is looking at requiring operator cards. There is no State Legislative representative for Oregon yet. P/R/C VanRhee has developed a report form for the legislative representatives.

D/Lt/C Art Pickard reported on activities in the State of Maine. The requirement for a boating education certificate (not a license) failed 2-1 last year in the legislature. That legislation left out paddlers. A new version has been introduced. This version includes paddle sports but does not include professional fishermen. It will take months to move this through the legislature; however, there is a better chance of passage this year.

Stf/C Sandy Pierog updated the committee on activities in Connecticut. Connecticut was one of the first states to adopt mandatory education. However, given the current economic situation, the state will no longer be in the boating education business. It will maintain a skeleton staff to certify organizations such as USPS, the Coast Guard Auxiliary and private operators for teaching.

Stf/C Dick Gercak provided an update on Florida. Boating is the second biggest industry there. There is a conflict for boaters regarding moorage on private waters. If communities request, dedicated anchorage areas can be assigned. However, State law supersedes local ordinances. The Intracostal Waterway is silting in. This is a state issue, but the state has not had the money to take care of it. The Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for Intracostal Waterway; however, it also does not have necessary dollars. The states should create a collation to convince the legislatures to fund dredging.

P/V/C Bob David gave an update on UN Resolution 40. At the present time, if a person does not live in the country, s/he cannot get a certification. There are attempts to get this changed so that Americans can be certified by another country.

BREAKOUT Sessions and BREAK 0952 – 1041

New Citizen Corps Alliance Orientation

D/Lt Howard Manly presented information about Citizen Corps. Citizen Corps was developed after 9/11 as it was determined critical to involve the community in Homeland Security efforts. There are 2314 Citizen Corps Councils located across the country in cities and counties. Citizen Corps is augmented by

organizations such as USPS, faith based organizations, etc. An Affiliation Agreement will be signed on Saturday. This Agreement states that USPS will carryout USPS programs, e.g., education, in cooperation with Citizen Corps. The Agreement fits into the civic service part of the USPS triangle.

Grant Writers Committee Review – P/R/C Priscilla Clarke

This is an Ad Hoc Committee charged with helping the national committees apply for grants and requests for proposals. The Committee will provide assistance with writing the grants. There are very short time frames for writing grants (can be as little as 3 months). The requests for grants must be reviewed by the Board of Directors and the Law Committee before they can be submitted. The Education Department has submitted requests for 3 grants from Coast Guard. Coast Guard grants have to be electronically submitted on grants.gov. Guidelines for submission are specific to each funding organization. To obtain more information or assistance with grant request procedures P/R/C Clarke can be contacted at psc@buffalo.edu.

Last-Minute EXPO Instructions – Stf/C Pierog announced the schedule for the EXPO booth on Friday.

There was discussion regarding how to make this Committee better known within USPS. P/R/C Wilson was appointed to develop a logo (shirt, insignia, etc.) for the Committee.

Lobbying Policy Proposal – R/C Husted

R/C Husted noted that there is a need to make the lobbying policy less negative. Current policy states that “the Chief Commander, or the designee(s) of the Chief Commander or the Operating Committee, shall be the only spokesperson(s) in presenting USPS policy before any governmental body or agency or any non-governmental organization”. The new policy statement is not ready yet. Its emphasis will be on encouraging people to talk more about boating and boater education.

POSTPONEMENT 1135

RECONVENE 1348 Thursday, 19 February 2009

Call to order by R/C William E. Husted, SN

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D/Lt/C Mary Ann Jensen, JN
D/Lt Frank A. Radomsky AP
P/R/C John P. Wilson, AP

R/C William E. Husted, SN
D/Lt. Howard Manly, AP
P/R/C Joyce Shaw, AP

P/N/FI/Lt Dick Jarmon, SN
Stf/C Sandra W. Pierog, SN
P/R/C Gene R. VanRhee, SN

Guests: Penny Burke, FEMA Community Preparedness Division
C/C Harry Cole, Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons
Cdr Daniel Kane, Chief, U.S. Coast Guard Prevention Department, Port of LA/Long Beach
Captain Paul Wiedenhoeft, Captain of the Port, United States Coast Guard LA – Long Beach
P/C/C Tony Gardiner, Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons
Catherine McLeod, Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons
Kristen Austin, Maritech Industries Inc.
Ray Tsuneyoshi, Director, California Department of Boating and Waterways
Tom Kemp, USPS Headquarters

USPS Representative Reports

Canadian Sail and Power Squadrons – P/N/FI/Lt Dick Jarmon

CPS is a growing organization and has 300 more members now than two weeks ago. USPS can learn a lot from CPS such as packaging the boating course and membership. This has worked for CPS. Individuals can obtain the Pleasure Craft operator’s card with a quick course like boat smart and become an associate

member of CPS for one year. CPS is much more efficient than USPS. P/N/FI/Lt Jarmon noted that Canada requires radio operator's license; CPS is only entity that offers that course.

National Association of Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) – R/C William Husted

R/C Husted noted that Jim Roeber resigning from this position because of other duties (Nominations Committee, Educational Fund). A new NASBLA representative has to be named by C/C Maynard.

National Safe Boating Council – P/R/C Joyce Shaw

There are 330+ member organizations on the Council. There have been two meetings since September, one in September and the other one last week. Her full report is attached at the end of these minutes.

United Safe Boating Institute – Canadian P/C/C Tony Gardiner reported for P/C/C Ted Smith

The USBI is composed of many boating organizations. It is the 'agency of last resort' to take on projects that can't be assumed by other organizations. Over 90% of its funding is from U.S. Coast Guard.

National Boating Safety Advisory Council (NBSAC) – Ray Tsuneyoshi reported for P/C/C Les Johnson

The NBSAC consists of representatives from the Boating Law Administrators, Boat Manufacturers and Affiliates such as USPS. The Council makes recommendations to the U.S. Coast Guard. If the Coast Guard is unable to implement the recommendations, it must tell the Council and Congress why they can't. Five yrs ago, the Council completed an administrative review of every boating regulation in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). There were 350 recommendations made for changes; however, only 3% have been implemented. A NBSAC task force is reviewing all recommendations for significance (ranking, or prioritizing). The NBSAC strategic plan can be found on GPRCommittee website.

Presentations by Special Guests

Kick Starting the New Citizen Corps Affiliate Agreement – Penny Burke, FEMA Community

Preparedness Division (phone: 202-786-9610, email: Penny.Burke@dhs.gov)

The Community Preparedness Division's vision is ultimately resilience. This cannot be achieved by government alone. It includes the people taking on the culture of preparedness. Communities are more connected to one another so localizing messages is really key. People must know their area and what is out of place. They must know what government's limits are and understand local preparedness. Information must be provided on how to take effective action. Councils, consisting of government, non-profits and privates, all sectors of the community are being established. There are currently 2342 Councils nationwide.

Citizen Corps Partners are Community emergency response teams (CERT), Fire Corps, Medical Reserve Corps, USA on Watch.org (Neighborhood Watch), Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS). There are 27 affiliates, includes USPS. The expectation is that the affiliates will participate on Councils at state and local levels. For USPS this expectation includes growing and strengthening waterway watch and awareness programs.

“Taming the Traffic in the Largest Container Port in the US” – Daniel Kane, United States Coast Guard and Captain Paul Wiedenhoeft, Captain of the Port, United States Coast Guard LA – Long Beach

The U.S. Coast Guard representatives commended USPS on the Vessel Safety Checks and safety training. The Port of Los Angeles – Long Beach consists of 15,000 acres. 45% of all container ship contents come into this port. About ½ of California's energy supplies and 1/20 of all US energy supplies arrive in this port. There are also cruise ships, commercial fishermen and 8000 recreational boats, tug and barge traffic. USPS could help the U.S. Coast Guard by participating on Harbor Safety Committees. The recreational boating perspective is needed. How do you deal with all the small boats in and around the large commercial vessels? The Port of Los Angeles is trying to regulate the recreational boaters within the commercial port areas. Some changes have been implemented.

“Wow ‘em to Wear It Campaign” - Ray Tsuneyoshi

In 2007 when talking during the NBSAC conference, it was decided to try an initiative to increase life jacket wear. The U.S. Coast Guard selected the Delta area in northern California. The approach was to saturate all media sources possible: radio, TV, movie ads. In addition, they gave away 1100 inflatable life jackets. Young students from Cal State Sacramento were crew members on a boat in the Delta. The target audience was 35-54 year old white male. The campaign went from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Disney characters participated. To get a free life jacket, the person had to sign pledge to wear the life jacket for one year. In 2008, they targeted the anglers in the Delta. The saturation campaign does work. However, it takes so much money and time that it can't be sustained.

P/R/C Shaw stated that Michigan and Tennessee will be participating in this campaign this year.

ADJOURNED: 1534

Liaison Report

The 2008 National Officers Directory listed 24 D/L/Os and 22 D/HS/Os. A **victory**, considering this was the first year since GPRCommittee was established. Combined D/L/O and D/HS/O appointment for D/33 was received too late for inclusion.

Thirteen Districts combine Liaison and Homeland Security functions.

For 2009, I have received replies, to date, from 11 District D/L/Os and D/HS/Os *directly*. Since we are now officially recognizing these two functions, Lena may have more info based on OD forms received.

Periodic e-mails to districts, sometimes including D/Cs and XOs, resulted in more recognition of the GPRCommittee functions. With completion of "Liaison Guidelines" on line (streamlining procedures helped), our committee website has more complete reference material. However, much of my e-mail communication deals with answers to questions and explanations.

Responses to specific issues are most prevalent (e.g. 2008 Clean Boating Act) and Homeland Security gets more attention than Liaison because that topic denotes urgency. Liaison, generally speaking, appears to be something that can be done "during the next watch year." Liaison efforts in D/13 culminated in a successful *Clean and Green Boating* seminar at Shoreline YC, Long Beach, CA. Regarding squadron activity, D/26 shines after getting over half of its squadrons to appoint S/L/Os and S/HS/Os. Remember, many of those squadrons are very small. D/L/O and D/HS/O Mark McCain sponsored one USCG Rescue 21 Program and scheduled a second one. He works for HS when not involved with USPS.

D/9 and D/18 have USPS representation on Harbor Safety Committees. Last September, John Malatak indicated he might get a list of participants on Harbor Safety Committees nationwide.

Questions regarding our Affiliate Agreement with Citizen Corps have been received. D/33 H/S and D/L/O, Luis Molero, Puerto Rico, is in the military and future HS activities may well lead to separate HS and Liaison function. At this time, they overlap considerably. Meanwhile, HS gets his primary attention.

All in all, although slowly, progress is being made. The incoming Sarasota PS Bridge, for instance, now has appointed a S/L/O (incoming XO is a very astute person). He is a member of both Sarasota and Venice. Being "on the scene," it is easy for me to offer assistance. Conceivably, due to closer cooperation between Venice and Sarasota PS, two squadrons will benefit from his Liaison efforts. Most people shy away from work that appears complicated and/or time consuming. Therefore, I now emphasize "keeping it simple," starting with one or two Liaison activities most beneficial locally.

For 2009, we hope to add more district Liaison and HS appointments. It requires consistent effort

to create increased awareness of the two functions and finding members willing to get involved. Much momentum was lost eleven years ago when Liaison was disbanded. We now strive to go "**onward and upward.**"

This ends my report.

Respectfully submitted,

P/Stf/C Fred C. Sellenraad, SN
Liaison/HS Coordinator, GPRCommittee

National Safe Boating Council

Report to USPS Annual Meeting ~ Anaheim, CA ~ 21 Feb 09

P/R/C Joyce F. Shaw, AP ~ (6 Sept 08 – 21 Feb 09 activities)

Greetings from the National Safe Boating Council Board of Directors, Chair Veronica Floyd, Executive Director Virgil Chambers, and approximately 330 member organizations that comprise NSBC. Membership in NSBC is open to **non-profit** and **commercial** organizations, **state** and **local marine enforcement** and **boating safety agencies**, and **individuals** interested in recreational boating safety.

MEETINGS

The *Fall Board of Directors* and *General Membership Meetings* were held in Clearwater, FL in conjunction with the NASBLA Annual Meeting 6 – 9 Sept 2008. The *Winter Board of Directors* meeting took place on Amelia Island, GA 22 – 23 January 2009. Members who comprise the Board include representatives from a cross section of government, industry, and non-profit sectors.

AWARDS / GRANT

The *National Safe Boating Council* serves as an advocate for boating safety and education, unifying organizations who seek the goal of *Safer Boating through Education*. Celebrating its mission to provide forums for the advancement and support of safe and enjoyable recreational boating, the Council joins Patron Level partner organizations to offer two annual contests and one grant. These awards recognize individual and organizational partners in the boating community that create innovative programs designed to improve boating education and raise awareness of recreational boating related issues. All Squadrons are eligible to apply.

BoatU.S. Boating Safety Youth Program Award: Boat Owners Association of the United States (BoatU.S.), patron level member of NSBC, sponsors the *Boating Safety Youth Program Award*. The program provides a vehicle to recognize individuals and organizations that have developed and successfully implemented innovative youth boating education programs that target safety issues and concerns of national interest. To qualify, a winning entry must integrate safety practices into the program and be targeted toward students 18 years of age or younger. Selection priority is given to unique or creative programs that promote the primary goal of increasing boat safety and safety awareness.

MillerCoors Alcohol Awareness Impact Award: MillerCoors, patron level member of NSBC, sponsors the *Alcohol Awareness Impact Award*. The purpose of the *AAI Award* is to annually recognize a program that demonstrates an effective prevention and awareness strategy to address the misuse of alcohol while promoting activities that educate the community about dangers of consuming alcohol while boating. Unique programs and those that emphasize boating safety will

be most favorably considered. Evaluation of the sponsoring organization's related services and programs will also be considered. The winning program must provide a preventive strategy to eliminate consumption of alcohol while boating.

Both the *BoatU.S. BSYP*A and *MillerCoors AAIA* are awarded annually. Each award carries a cash prize of \$2,500, a beautiful trophy, and an expense-paid trip for a representative of the winning program to attend the *International Boating and Water Safety Summit*. Time is allowed at the *Summit* for each award recipient to present a 45-minute workshop about his award-winning program. Applicants must agree to send a representative to the *Summit* to present the workshop and receive the award.

Award applications, full contest descriptions, and information about past winners are available online at the NSBC web site (www.safeboatingcouncil.org/awards). Applications, due no later than 31 December of each calendar year, are evaluated by an NSBC Committee based on criteria that include a program description, budget proposal, and ability of the program to be duplicated by others. NSBC may require an interview with the program administrator before final selection of each award is made. Award grants may be used to purchase equipment, A-V aids, printing and teaching aids, program promotion/advertisement, rental time of pool or waterfront facilities, transportation to on-the-water sites or other costs associated with the advancement of the program. No funds may be used as wages or salaries for instructors.

OMC Foundation Take 'em Boating Grant Program: The NSBC "*Take 'Em*" Boating Grant was developed to promote and develop interest in boating for future generations. Funded by OMC Foundation on behalf of former employees of the Outboard Marine Corporation, the grant seeks to continue their legacy and interest in boating safety, environmental awareness, and the marine industry. The OMC Grant is an excellent program that encourages organizations to develop creative and innovative programs to get kids into boats and on the water, and helps demonstrate the benefits of on-the-water activities to youth.

This \$5000 grant is awarded annually to a youth program that gets kids aged 6-18 safely into boating and promotes the future of the marine industry through environmental education, safety awareness and boating enjoyment. Applications from organizations, companies and agencies will be accepted each year between 01 October and 31 December. The winning applicant will be announced in early spring.

2009 INTERNATIONAL BOATING AND WATER SAFETY SUMMIT

The 2009 *IBWSS* will be held in Panama City Beach, Florida, 19 – 22 April 2009 at the Bay Point Marriott Golf Resort and Spa; room rate is \$125 per night (plus taxes); phone 800-644-2650 for reservations. The Opening Reception will be held Sunday at 1800, and the Awards Banquet Wednesday evening at 1800. A great program has been planned which includes skill-based development classes and hands-on programs. Pre-Summit Training Courses offered by NSBC include the Instructor Certification Course (15–17 April 09~\$275) and the Close Quarter Boat Handling Course (16-17 April 09~\$350). The 2010 *IBWSS* will be held in Daytona Beach, Florida. Check the web site below for *IBWSS* details and the registration brochure.

2009 NORTH AMERICAN SAFE BOATING CAMPAIGN

The *NASBC* has a revised web site layout that features a new format where one can play PSAs and videos on the main page. New features allow visitors to post individual "Wear

It” efforts along with videos and photos directly to web site. An Events Calendar is listed on main page; links are provided to new campaign accounts on **YouTube, MySpace, Twitter, and Facebook.**

In 2009, targeted ***Wear it!*** efforts continue in Tennessee and California; Michigan, a third ***Wear It!*** state, will be added this year. 2008 surveys in California showed an increase in wear rate, and we await survey results from Tennessee. More than 15 other states are using ***Wear It!*** for local campaigns. NSBC is currently collecting resources and materials for the 2009 ***NASBW Campaign***, updating the web site with 2009 information, and working on the Press Kit.

With a mission to enhance the safety of recreational boating through education and outreach, NSBC welcomes the opportunity to assist Squadrons and Districts in developing, encouraging, and recognizing projects that demonstrate our mutual commitment to ***Safer Boating Through Education.***

Respectfully submitted,
P/R/C/ Joyce F. Shaw, AP ~ USPS Representative to NSBC

Useful websites and contact information:

National Safe Boating Council (Main site): www.safeboatingcouncil.org

Sidekicks: www.boatingsidekicks.com

North American Safe Boating Campaign: www.safeboatingcampaign.com

NASBC (including “I’m a Safe Boater: Are U?” contest and “Be a Survivor” contest:
outreach@safeboatingcouncil.org

Office Contact: Phone (703) 361-4294; e-mail office@safeboatingcouncil.org

ⁱ For copies of approved minutes from any of these NSBC Meetings, please contact NSBC Secretary P/R/C Joyce Shaw, AP at odetojoyce@aol.com.