

USPS® HONORARY MEMBERSHIPS

A Membership & PR Tool

What is an Honorary Membership?

Honorary Memberships are a way for squadrons to offer a local membership to a person or persons who has helped or may help the squadron. The membership is for a term of **one** year and gives the honorary member access to all the local squadron has to offer (meetings, c&r, special local events, etc); no national benefits are earned nor are voting rights. The local squadron may actually acquire a new dues paying member after offering such a program.

Why offer an Honorary Membership?

These honorary members acquire information about USPS and the local squadron civic service activities. They will be able to speak about the organization in a positive manner. They become a friend to USPS. They become a Public Relations tool for you to inform and ask for assistance in those areas in which they have expertise and/or access.

How to Offer Honorary Memberships

This program should be approved by the squadron Executive Committee and made a part of the Squadron Standing Rules. Each proposed Honorary Member should be approved by the EXCOM and the results made a part of the minutes. Consider an annual quantity limit; make it an exclusive group. The Honorary Member may be added to the squadron database using DB2000. A special field is created which does not affect the national dues paying membership database. The field allows for the Honorary Member to receive communications from the local squadron, however. Additionally, it may be beneficial for the district to support the squadron(s) honorary members by including them in district events and communications.

To Whom to Offer an Honorary Membership

- People who affect the local marine environment
- Local waterways officials; Port Authority officials;
- The mayor
- The City Manager; County manager; elected board members
- Law enforcement chiefs
- Safety Officers
- A special guest speaker
- Coast Guard station chiefs or commandants; NOAA officials; Fish & Wildlife officials
- Marine manufacturers
- News People: newspapers, television, cable, etc
- SeaTow and TowBoatUS franchise owners and/or boat captains
- And more

When and Where to Recognize a new Honorary Member

Make the bestowing of an Honorary Membership a news event. Write up a press release, honor them at a dinner, take photos, make it festive, and make them feel special. At future events that they attend be sure to get action photos of their participation and mention them by name.

Order the Honorary Member Certificate from HQ: item **#08-39-104**; also available are wallet-sized cards.