Chief Commander Lance J. Jensen, N, convened the meeting at 1100.

Father James C. Biegler, N, led the invocation followed by the presentation of the Colors, the Pledge of Allegiance led by N/F/Lt Trudy M. Brown, AP, and the singing of the national anthem.

The national secretary declared a quorum present.

**Introduction of Past Chief Commanders**

P/C/C Arthur H. Farr, N, introduced the other past chief commanders present in order of their terms as chief commander:

- P/C/C Raymond A. Finley Jr., N, 1982-1983 (Lackawanna/4)
- P/C/C Richard W. Miner, N, 1986-1987 (Birmingham/9)
- P/C/C William D. Selden, N, 1988-1989 (Richmond/5)
- P/C/C James T. Stewart, N, 1990-1991 (Skokie Valley/20)
- P/C/C Joseph L. Kennedy, N, 1994-1995 (St. Petersburg/22)
- P/C/C L.M. Barnes III, N, 1996-1997 (Rocky Mount/27)


**Presentation of Guests**

N/F/Lt Brown introduced the following guests:
R/C C.A. Miller Jr., JN, chairman, announced that he had appointed P/C Benjamin H. Sooy III, AP, as the parliamentarian for this Governing Board Meeting and then explained the voting procedures.

R/C Miller was joined by C/C Jensen in presenting squadron charters to Hiawatha Valley Sail and Power Squadron/10, Thurmond Lake Sail and Power Squadron/26, Ft. Macon Sail and Power Squadron/27 and Pamlico Sail and Power Squadron/27.

R/C Miller said that the Operating Committee had approved the following amendments to the USPS Bylaws and presented them to the Governing Board for approval:

Item 1. The national secretary recommends that the Computer Systems Committee be merged with the Graphics Arts Committee and renamed Information Technology Committee. In order to effect this merger, the Committee on Rules recommends that USPS Bylaws Sections 11.7 & 11.8 be amended to read as follows:

Section 11.7 Secretary’s Department:
Delete “Chairman, Computer Systems Committee” and “Chairman, Graphics Arts Committee”
Insert “Chairman, Information Technology Committee”

Section 11.8 Secretary’s Department:
Delete “Assistant chairman, Computer Systems Committee” and “Assistant Chairman, Graphics Arts Committee”
Insert “Assistant chairman, Information Technology Committee”

R/C Miller moved the amendment, and the Governing Board ADOPTED the motion.
Item 2. The national educational officer recommends that the name of the Teaching Aids Committee be changed to Educational Graphics Committee. In order to effect this change the Committee on Rules recommends that *USPS Bylaws* Sections 11.7 & 11.8 be amended to read as follows:

**Section 11.7 Educational Department:**
Delete “Chairman, Teaching Aids Committee”
Insert “Chairman, Educational Graphics Committee”

**Section 11.8 Educational Department:**
Delete “Assistant chairman, Teaching Aids Committee”
Insert “Assistant chairman, Educational Graphics Committee”

R/C Miller moved the amendment, and the Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (00-GB-11)
Item 3. The national executive officer recommends that the bylaws requirement that applications for new squadron charters be made by a group of at least 25 active members be amended to allow for circumstances when an application is made by fewer than 25 active members but, in the opinion of the Operating Committee, warrants approval. Accordingly, in order to effect this change, the Committee on Rules recommends that the first sentence of USPS Bylaws Section 7.20 be amended to read as follows:

Section 7.20 Application for a charter for a new squadron may be made by a group of 25 active members of USPS, unless otherwise approved by the Operating Committee, by submitting a written application, addressed to the Governing Board but sent to the chairman of the Committee on Rules, accompanied by a set of bylaws proposed for that squadron, and by meeting other requirements as the Governing Board shall from time to time prescribe.

R/C Miller moved the amendment, and the Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (00-GB-12)

Item 4. Confusion exists in the procedure for changing a squadron’s name. Currently, changing a squadron’s geographical name requires approval by both the Committee on Rules and the Governing Board. Whereas, changing a squadron’s name to include “Sail” requires approval of only the Committee of Rules. In order to eliminate the confusion and simplify the procedure, the Committee on Rules suggests that changing a squadron’s geographical name should require the approval of its district council, the Committee on Rules, and the Governing Board. Therefore, the Committee on Rules recommends that Section 7.1 be amended to read as follows:

Section 7.1 The name of each squadron shall have geographical significance and not conflict with the name of an existing squadron. It shall include its geographical name followed by the words “Power Squadron (Inc.)” or “Sail and Power Squadron (Inc.)”. A squadron may change its geographical name with the approval of its district council, the Committee on Rules and the Governing Board. A squadron may otherwise change its name with the approval of the Committee on Rules.

R/C Miller moved the amendment, and the Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (00-GB-13)

Item 5. USPS is a nonprofit corporation and continues to qualify and operate each year as such pursuant to the provisions of Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. In some instances, squadrons have applied directly to the IRS and have been granted 501(c)(3) status on an individual basis. This has created confusion since they are also included under the umbrella of USPS and are listed in each annual report. Action is being taken by the Law Committee to remedy this problem.

In order to avoid recurrence of this situation in the future, the Law Committee has recommended that the USPS Bylaws be amended prohibiting squadrons, districts and auxiliaries from applying individually to the Internal Revenue Service for 501(c)(3) status. In order to effect this prohibition, the Committee on Rules recommends that
the *USPS Bylaws* be amended by adding a subsection to Section 7.23 to be numbered 7.23.1 and to read as follows:

7.23.1 No squadron, district or auxiliary shall make application to the Internal Revenue Service to obtain individual recognition of tax exemption under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, but shall be included, upon their written request, under the USPS Group Exemption letter.

R/C Miller moved the amendment and the Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (00-GB-14)

Item 6. The national administrative officer recommends that the Governing Board delegate the authority for approving squadron and district burgees to the national administrative officer, who in turn will assign responsibility for such to the Flag and Etiquette Committee.

Accordingly, the Committee on Rules recommends that *USPS Bylaws* Section 5.2.16 be amended by adding at the end of that section the phrase “and may delegate such authority when desirable,” so that the section shall read:

5.2.16 Promulgate specifications for and regulate the wearing of uniforms and insignia by members of USPS and flags and pennants to be used by such members or flown from vessels commanded by such members, and may delegate such authority when desirable.

R/C Miller moved the amendment, and the Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (00-GB-15)

R/C Miller then offered a motion that the Governing Board delegate authority for approving squadron burgees and district flags to the national administrative officer with the advice and recommendation of the Flag and Etiquette Committee. The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (00-GB-16)

**Report of the Committee on Nominations**

R/C Elmer F. Dreier, AP, chairman, announced that members now have the option to file resumes online at the USPS Web site. He reminded members that resumes are kept on file by the Committee on Nominations for only three years.

In accordance with the *USPS Bylaws* 5.5.1(3), R/C Dreier recommended the election of the below-listed members as general members of the Governing Board for the remainder of 2000:

P/D/C Frank E. Dougherty Jr., AP Absecon Island/5
D/Lt/C George J. Ellis, AP Lake Norman/27

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With the Governing Board approval of the Information Technology Committee, and in accordance with the *USPS Bylaws* Section 5.5.1(3), R/C Dreier recommended the election of the following members of the Information Technology Committee:

As chairman, R/C Angelo V. Giovanniello, N, (Great South Bay/3) and as assistant commander, Stf/C Wayne Spivak, JN, (South Shore/3.)

R/C Dreier said that due to a resignation and a death, he recommended the following:

For the Committee on Rules, delete P/D/C James Gabocy, N, (Grosse Ile/9) and add P/R/C James C. Acheson, N, (Port Huron/9).

For the Educational Fund Committee, delete Emil E. Fleck (Missouri Ozarks/30) and add John C. Ellsworth (Fayetteville/27) with his term expiring January 2003.

The Governing Board ADOPTED the chairman’s motion to elect the various individuals recommended to fill the vacancies indicated. (00-GB-17)

**Approval of the Minutes**
C/C Jensen announced that the minutes of the Governing Board Meetings held on 20 January 2001 are approved as distributed.

C/C Jensen entertained a motion that the 20 January 2001 ratification of actions of the Operating Committee reflected in the subsequent minutes of its meeting held on 17 January 2001 be confirmed. The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion.

Report of the Law Officer

R/C Jack Wilson, AP, national law officer, gave an update on LawCom activities, reporting that LawCom had received or initiated 99 items for review, advice or legal assistance through the end of May.

On-the-Water Policy ADOPTED. (Add Policy)

Report of the Planning Committee

R/C Wilson said that among the current activities of the LawCom are the review and negotiation of hotel contracts for the New Orleans Governing Board, documents and contracts needed under the USCG grant to conduct a USPS National Safe Boating Test during May 2001, various agreements needed for the joint USPS/USCGAux online CD/ROM public boating course, and Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with various states.

He reported that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office had approved trademark registration for USPS trade dress in Class 16, while the Class 41 application therefor remains pending, and that “Intent to Use” applications for the words “Chart Smart” and “Water Smart” previously filed, remain pending.

He further reported that LawCom has provided review and recommendations respecting requests received from several states and organizations for permission to link to the USPS Web site.

R/C Wilson said that as a result of liability and risk management concerns, LawCom had recommended and com. had approved two additional requirements for USPS participation in the Vessel Safety Check Program 1) that USPS vessel examiners be at least 18 years old, and 2) that the safety check form as used by USPS vessel examiners provide for the signature of the owner/operator of the examined vessel, together with a specific, affirmative acknowledgment and disclaimer. Likewise, he reported that LawCom is beginning review of the USPS national insurance policies and the current USPS on-the-water operational policy.

R/C Wilson reported that LawCom would recommend to the fall 2000 Governing Board an amendment to the USPS Bylaws that will restrict the activities and authority of any member encumbered with a legal disability.
under the laws of his or her state of residence, such as a minor, usually under the age of 18, to hold office, contract
for, or act as an agent of USPS, its districts, squadrons or auxiliaries.

R/C Wilson said that in order to maintain the USPS group exemption status under IRS Section 501(c)(3), USPS is required to make an annual report to the IRS identifying all subordinate units and reporting significant changes therein, and that it must maintain on file a written authorization from and specific information on each of those subordinate units to be included in USPS exemption. He stated that he would be sending letters and information to districts, squadrons and auxiliaries so as to obtain the requisite written authorization and required information necessary for USPS to preserve and maintain its group exemption.

R/C Wilson also reminded members of the Governing Board’s action, earlier in the day, which adopted a bylaw amendment to clarify that squadrons, districts and auxiliaries would henceforth entitled to seek inclusion in USPS Group Exemption rather than seeking individual exemptions.

Lastly, he urged members to visit and review the LawCom Web site which contains information and documents of benefit to squadrons and districts, including a model hotel contract and model charter agreements developed by LawCom.

Report of the Planning Committee

R/C Frank Golle, N, chairman, reported on USPS’ efforts in developing and implementing a strategic plan. He said that the strategic planning process involves the following: 1) assessing the current situation and performance of USPS; 2) formulating a strategic direction, including shared mission, vision, and belief statements, organizational goals, and indicators of success; and 3) generating specific plans and strategies to achieve these goals.

R/C Golle said that the strategic planning process will receive input from the entire organization and that a completed plan is expected by the 2001 spring Governing Board.

He said the chief commander challenged the Planning Committee to study and recommend how best to recognize contributions by USPS family members. PlanCom agreed that family members should be recognized for services rendered by providing an inducement for family members to become active members but not by alienating any other class of membership.

R/C Golle reported that PlanCom prepared its recommendation and the OCom adopted a motion to ask the Committee on Rules to prepare amendments to the USPS Bylaws authorizing the chief commander to award family merit marks on the same basis that merit marks are awarded to active members. He said that the proposed amendments will be included in the notice to the fall Governing Board and presented to the Governing Board in Baltimore.
He reported that PlanCom is studying several areas: 1) mentoring, 2) membership enhancements, 3) standards, 4) training and motivation, 5) information development, 6) partnering, and 7) simplification.

**Report of the Marketing Committee**

R/C E. Steven Jensen, JN, chairman, reported on the activities of the Marketing Committee. He said that contact with representatives of WalMart is continuing but that it is not likely that any arrangements will be finalized this year.

R/C Jensen said that the USPS Partner’s Program is beginning discussions with US Marine to distribute USPS materials with all of its new boat sales in the coming model year.

He said that the annual IMTEC show has been moved to 25 - 29 September 2000 in Orlando has been renamed Boating Week. USPS will be represented, providing an excellent opportunity to promote the Partner’s Program and other USPS programs.

R/C Jensen displayed a sample brochure, designed by Dean Michaels and Madison Avenue West, that includes a coupon entitling the recipient to a free USPS boating course manual when taking a class. These brochures would be a component of the USPS Partner’s Program or could be used by squadrons that have agreements with local boat dealers.

He said that the Marketing Committee has secured the cooperation of BoatU.S. and West Marine in supporting USPS’ efforts in the Vessel Safety Check (VSC) program by providing discounts on safety-related items to those who have their vessels examined. He said that Boater’s World has also indicated a desire to support the VSC program.

R/C Jensen reported that USPS has received a grant from the USCG to produce a televised National Safe Boating Quiz to air in May 2001.

R/C Jensen closed by saying that the Marketing Committee is planning to publish periodically a newsletter that will be distributed to districts and squadrons and posted on the USPS Web site. The newsletter will contain information about national marketing efforts, programs that are working for districts and squadrons, and ideas for local marketing programs.

**Report of the Finance Committee**

R/C Dan Stein, N, chairman, reported on three items: 1) the current status of USPS investments, 2)
financial results vs. budget and 3) the status of the Members and Endowment funds.

R/C Stein said that the Finance Committee had changed the investment mix, reducing equities from 70 to 64 percent and increasing fixed income investments from 30 to 36 percent.

He said that although the investment market has been extremely volatile since March, USPS investments have been able to maintain an overall 7.6 percent non-annualized return through 30 May.

He said that the financial performance vs. budget for the first five months shows an excess of revenue over expenses by $69,000. This revenue excess includes investment income of $255,000, or $169,000 over year-to-date budgeted expectations.

R/C Stein reported that the Members and Endowment funds have received moderate contributions since the Annual Meeting. He reported a balance in the Members Fund of $126,738 and $60,354 in the Endowment Fund as of 30 May.

Report of the National Treasurer

V/C Doug Kerr, N, said that he concurred with the report of the Finance Committee. He commented that although revenues are exceeding expenses by approximately $69,000, it does not include the initial $150,000 payment received under the new FirstUSA® (FUSA) contract because that money is being accrued in a separate account.

V/C Kerr reported that work had been completed to prepare a balanced 2001 budget and that it did not require a dues increase. He said that the 2001 budget would be presented to the fall Governing Board for approval.

The national treasurer said that he had written to all district treasurers asking them to assist squadron treasurers in collecting 2001 dues. He reminded all members that the due date at headquarters is 30 June and encouraged all members to help their squadron with the dues renewal process.

V/C Kerr said that information pertaining to IRS form 990 had been sent to all districts and squadrons, and he reminded treasurers to submit appropriate 990 information to headquarters.

He said that, based on feedback from the chief’s representatives at spring district conferences, headquarters will continue to investigate the concept of anniversary billing and direct dues collection by headquarters, but may be some time in development.

Report of the National Secretary

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V/C Ernest G. Marshburn, N, introduced the headquarters staff members in attendance at the meeting:
Mary Catherine Berube, headquarters director; Lena Padro, manager, membership services; Kathy Kesterson, manager, administrative services; and Yvonne Hill, editor, THE ENSIGN.

V/C Marshburn reported that the Secretary’s Department continues to actively promote USPS core principles: to be customer service oriented; to simplify business processes, and to enhance communications within USPS.

He highlighted some accomplishments and initiatives within the Secretary’s Department. He said that the Secretary’s Department is working on a joint project with the Treasurer’s Department to develop a Secretary’s/Treasurer’s Handbook.

A prototype initiative is underway to offer members the opportunity to receive minutes in electronic form rather than in paper form. This project has the potential to significantly reduce USPS postage and printing costs. This will be an alternative to, not a replacement for, the current distribution system.

He reported that the merger of the Computer Systems and Graphic Arts committees is now complete with the formation of the new Information Technology Committee. The ITCom will have the resources and staffing to provide the services being requested by members such as a Web-enabled ComNom resume form, a Web-enabled Historian’s Report form, and a Web-based replacement to the IIS (telephone dialup) system.

V/C Marshburn said that the final draft of an Electronic Information Policy is under review by LawCom. It is the intent of this policy to take every precaution to protect USPS member information. He said that this policy will be distributed with the notice to the fall Governing Board meeting and then presented to the Governing Board for approval in Baltimore.

The national secretary announced that the Operations Manual containing updated information and new graphics will be available by the 2001 Annual Meeting.

He commented that THE ENSIGN continues to expand the use of color, creativity and the inclusion of timely information of interest to USPS members.

The Publications Committee is focusing on the Excellence in Journalism award process by identifying the best practices that will help meet the award criteria.

He said that the new flexible Ships’ Store kits are giving districts the ability to select the number and type of items they sell at district conferences. He reported on continuing efforts to create an e-commerce Ship’s Store Web site, so USPS members can order Ship’s Store items online.

V/C Marshburn said that, in response to requests to lower the selling price of vessel examiner shirts,
districts and squadrons may now order shirts in quantities of 10 or more for $25 each plus shipping.

Report of the National Administrative Officer

V/C G. Leslie Johnson, N, reported that USPS had 402 more members on 31 May 2000 compared to 1 June 1999.

V/C Johnson said that the new brochure *USPS - What's In It For You?* has been very successful with districts and squadrons, and that copies are available in lots of 50 for $3.50.

The NAO said that the Member Involvement Committee has been very active. Some of the committee’s activities include the preparation of historical member data for districts and squadrons; reviewing and disseminating the Appleton presentation; promoting 1st timer activities for districts and squadrons; writing numerous articles for THE ENSIGN; and providing speakers and representatives for district conferences.

V/C Johnson asked R/C Liz Glassell, AP, to present the Member Involvement Committee Awards (MICA) to the squadrons that have demonstrated success in solving member involvement problems.

Third Place - tied - Honolulu/13; Marion/29
Second Place - tied - Akron/7; Oklahoma City/31
First Place - South Hills/7

The NAO said that the fourth annual USPS Youth Poster Contest will be held in 2001. The Auxiliary Advisory Committee encourages participation in the contest, and asks members to visit the committee’s Web site to monitor committee activities, download forms and use the new simplified auxiliary bylaws.

The Boating Activities Committee reports that the 2000 Port Captains Roster and Guide has been distributed. V/C Johnson recommended that members should take advantage of this USPS resource.

V/C Johnson stated that the Operating Committee and the Flag and Etiquette Committee support the idea of designating the VSC shirt and hat as an official USPS uniform. He made a motion to designate the VSC shirt and hat as an official USPS uniform and the Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (00-GB-20)

R/C Lew Ward, N, recommended approval of squadron burgees for Thurmond Lake Sail and Power Squadron/26 and Ft. Macon Sail and Power Squadron/27 to the national administrative officer, who then approved the burgees.

The Operations Training Committee is working on two modules that will focus on new members. *The New Member Module of Operations Training* is structured to take one evening and requires two to three hours to present and is now being tested. The second module, *Operations Training for Bridge Officers*, is now being developed.

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V/C Johnson said that the Member Enhancements Committee reports that the new FUSA contract has been completed. The new FUSA enrollment applications will be bar coded by squadron and that 25 applications will be sent to each squadron in June. He reminded members that the $25 new card application fee is earned for approved cards only.

The Boat Insurance Program reports a good premium-loss ratio during the past year. That ratio allows the premiums to remain competitive for members.

V/C Johnson made a motion to hold the spring Governing Board on 7-11 May 2003 at the Sheraton Hotel, New Orleans, at a rate of $142 a day. The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (00-GB-21)

Report of the National Educational Officer

V/C James E. Roeber, N, reported that he would address the two district resolutions assigned to the Educational Department, report on the highlights of Educational Department activities, and ask for approval for a new electronic basic boating course.

V/C Roeber discussed the District 18 resolution calling for a change in terminology in how a member who has passed all advanced grades and elective courses is referred to orally. “Full Certificate” is currently used when referring to a member who has received the Educational Achievement Award. The resolution calls for changing the oral terminology to “Senior Navigator.”

The NEO said that the term “Full Certificate” is technically inaccurate because the membership certificate now contains three boxes for non-educational programs including Senior Member, Life Member and Operations Training. A member could pass all educational courses and not have a “Full Certificate.”

He said that he would present a motion at the fall 2000 Governing Board to change the written designation for “N-underlined” and “FC” to “SN” if the District 18 resolution passes.

V/C Roeber stated that the term “Senior Navigator” describes well the accomplishments of a Navigation course graduate who has passed all elective courses, and with the full support of the Operating Committee, recommended approval of the District 18 resolution.

A motion was made from the floor to remand the District 18 resolution back to the Educational Department for further study. The Governing Board DEFEATED the motion. (00-GB-1)

Following further discussion on appropriate terminology, the Governing Board ADOPTED the District 18 resolution. (00-GB-22)
The NEO then reported on the District 23 resolution. He read the resolution as follows: “We are in disagreement with the proposal to allow members to complete advanced grade courses without completing the prerequisites for those courses. Further, we resolve that modules for courses must be taken in their sequence, and that advanced grade course prerequisite requirements must be maintained as present time, e.g., Seamanship and Piloting, Advanced Piloting, Junior Navigation, Navigation. Further resolve that educational policies of USPS must be approved by the Governing Board and not by the Educational Department of USPS alone.”

V/C Roeber said that the resolution contained two separate, unrelated issues. One directs the sequence in which advanced grade courses, modules and exams must be taken, and the other addresses Governing Board approval of Educational Department policy changes. He said that the OCom believes that it is in the best interest of the members to divide the District 23 resolution into two parts so that each part may be considered and voted upon on its own merits. The chair ruled that the District 23 resolution should be split into two parts. The first part now reads: “We are in disagreement with the proposal to allow members to complete advanced grade courses without completing the prerequisites for those courses. Further, we resolve that modules for courses must be taken in their sequence, and that advanced grade course prerequisite requirements must be maintained as present time.”

The NEO said that access to USPS educational programs is important to members. He said that members have always had the right to take any course at any time, subject to local squadron action. He also reiterated that squadrons can maintain the traditional course prerequisite sequence for examinations or modules. The NEO said that the national organization should not dictate examination sequences that prevent members from taking courses or exams or submitting sight folders whenever they are ready. With the full concurrence of the Operating Committee, V/C Roeber recommended defeating the first portion of the District 23 resolution.

An amendment was offered to grandfather those members who are currently taking classes out of sequence if the first portion of the District 23 resolution passed. The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (00-GB-23)

After additional discussion, the Governing Board DEFEATED the first part of the District 23 resolution. (00-GB-2)

V/C Roeber then stated the second part of the District 23 resolution: “We further resolve that educational policies of USPS must be approved by the Governing Board and not by the Educational Department of USPS alone.” He said that this resolution is basically a reaffirmation and clarification of Section 5.2.8 of the USPS Bylaws. With the full concurrence of the Operating Committee, V/C Roeber recommended approval of the second portion of the District 23 resolution. The Governing Board ADOPTED the second portion of the District 23 resolution. (00-GB-24)

The NEO continued his report with highlights of the Educational Department since the Annual Meeting. He said that the Operating Committee approved the passing of either the Ohio Boating Education Course Final
Exam or the Ohio Boating Education Course Home Study Course Proctored Proficiency Exam as meeting the educational requirement for USPS membership.

Certification of the Boat Smart®, Boating Course® and Jet Smart® courses expires at the end of 2000 and revisions to bring these courses into compliance with the latest NASBLA standards are underway.

He reported that JN99 is now available at headquarters and that a free distribution will be made to DEOs and SEOs.

He reported that final testing is being completed for computer-generated random exams.

V/C Roeber said that students have been requesting better feedback on questions missed when they take an exam and want to retain their exam papers. He announced that effective immediately, all Seamanship and elective course students may retain their closed-book exam question booklets and submit only the completed bubble-sheet answer form to headquarters.

The NEO reported on the proposed electronic basic boating course. He said that the eight-hour multimedia boating course will be NASBLA-approved. The course manual, on which the electronic courseware will be based, is expected to be an enhanced version of “Boat America,” a course developed by BoatEd. The enhancements are designed to assure that the new boating course will be comparable to Boat Smart®.

V/C Roeber said that he believes that USPS is creating an outstanding new public boating education course to add to our product line and appeal to a growing, new market. He offered a motion, with the full support of the Operating Committee, that the Governing Board approve the development and implementation, in full partnership with the USCGAux, of a NASBLA-approved, multimedia, electronic boating course, to be offered in both an Internet and a CD-ROM format and requiring a proctored final examination that will satisfy the educational requirement for USPS membership. The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (00-GB-25)

V/C Roeber called on P/R/C Nina Anastasio, N, to present the 1999 “N” Club awards. This award recognizes squadrons for educational excellence and encourages members to learn and teach the principles of celestial navigation.

Winner - Peace River/22
First Runner-Up - Minute Man/12
Second Runner-Up - Mt. Clemens/9

Report of the National Executive Officer

V/C Theodore H. Smith, N, reported on the progress of the ad hoc New Squadron Development
Committee. He said that nine groups from all parts of the country have been granted provisional squadron status since the Annual Meeting. The goal of the committee is to create 24 provisional squadrons in 2000.

V/C Smith said that an instructional guide with sample forms is being developed to make it easier for provisional squadrons to obtain squadron status.

He also reported that four new squadrons have been chartered since the Annual Meeting: Hiawatha Valley/10, Thurmond Lake/26, Ft. Macon/27 and Pamlico/27.

V/C Smith reported that three squadrons have voted to disband, and that they have met all USPS Bylaws requirements of squadron dissolution. He made a motion to formally dissolve the Boston Power Squadron/12, Flint River Power Squadron/22, and Milehigh Power Squadron/28, and the Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (00-GB-26)

The NXO congratulated Jacksonville Power Squadron/23 and San Francisco Power Squadron on their 50th anniversaries and announced that their squadron’s burgees denoting their 50th year had either been approved or are nearing approval by the Flag and Etiquette Committee.

V/C Smith assigned the following resolution from District 28 that suggests that the annual membership dues be payable on a one-, two- or three-year basis. He assigned this resolution to the national treasurer with representation from the Membership Committee for reporting at the Baltimore Governing Board.

The NXO said that one of his goals is to aggressively promote the Bowsprit Program. This award recognizes those districts that have met certain criteria in both educational and membership categories. He said that the OCom has authorized a special assistant to the national executive officer whose duty will be to maintain district statistics and report them to the districts. He encouraged all districts to strive to achieve the Bowsprit award on an annual basis.

V/C Smith reported on the activities of the Executive Department committees. The Cooperative Charting Committee reports that the Cooperative Charting program is doing well and that the Adopt-A-Chart Program has been very successful since its beginning in May 1997.

The Legislative Committee has been working closely with NASBLA, attempting to meet our mutual goal of having an MOU with each state in which USPS has a presence. USPS has MOUs with 25 states, with an additional 12 nearing completion.

The Public Relations Committee is promoting the Cooperative Advertising Program, which helps support squadron’s advertising efforts to promote USPS safe boating courses. During 1999, 22 districts received funds from the program.
V/C Smith then called on R/C Dave Rickard, AP, to present the 2000 Public Relations Awards to squadrons for their efforts in promoting USPS public safe boating education:

- Charles F. Chapman Scrapbook Award: first place - Anna Maria Island/22; second place - Beaver Lake/31; third place - Cincinnati/24
- Roger Upton Video Award: first place - Hoosier/24; second place Mattapoissett/14.

Continuing his report, V/C Smith said that the National Safety Committee reports another very successful National Safe Boating Week with districts and squadrons throughout the country participating in safe boating activities. He reminded squadrons to report their activities to the National Safe Boating Council and to their districts in order to qualify for the USPS National Safety Honor Roll.

**Report of the Past Chief Commander**

P/C/C Arthur H. Farr, N, read the actions of the 6 May 2000 Operating Committee Meeting and moved for ratification of the actions.

ADOPTED:

1. a motion to grant a Life Saving Award to Cdr William Eibach, N, and Lt Evie Eibach, S, St. Petersburg/22. (00-OC-30)
2. a motion to approve the procedure of approving provisional squadron status for a qualifying group subject to approval of their provisional bylaws by the Committee on Rules. (00-OC-31)
3. a motion to authorize the inclusion within its group exemption of all provisional squadrons, and to direct their listing in the annual report filed with the IRS each August, and additionally, to extend to provisional squadrons the same coverage as may now or hereafter be provided to districts, squadrons and auxiliaries under the USPS national insurance policies. (00-OC-32)
4. a motion to ratify the previous OCom approval of provisional squadron status for Houma Provisional Squadron/15; Omaha Provisional Squadron/30; River Valley Provisional Squadron/31; and Sable Point Provisional Squadron/9. (00-OC-33)
5. a motion to assign Thurmond Lake Sail and Power Squadron to D/26 subject to ratification by the Governing Board. (00-OC-34)
a motion to adopt an MOU between USPS and NASBLA that declares our mutual working relationship in supporting our respective missions of safe boating education subject to minor wording revisions. (00-OC-35)

a motion to grant permission to the state of Kansas to use the USPS logo in its brochure listing safe boating courses, with the understanding that this is not an endorsement of other safe boating courses offered in Kansas. (00-OC-36)

a motion to ratify the national executive officer’s authorization to purchase 25,000 4-inch Boating Course graduate decals and 500 12-inch Boating Course graduate decals for approximately $3,618. (00-OC-37)

a motion to endorse the online and CD-ROM program concept as presented, that appropriate officers are authorized to begin negotiating contracts with selected vendors, and that the NEO should present the program to the June 2000 Governing Board for approval. (00-OC-38)

a motion to authorize the NEO to continue working with Madison Avenue West on the reformatting and redesign of the Knots, Bends and Hitches Learning Guide. (00-OC-39)

a motion to endorse the D/18 resolution to change the designation of an Educational Achievement Award holder from “Full Certificate” to “Senior Navigator” and further recommend to change the written designation from “N” to “SN.” (00-OC-40)

a motion that no squadron is to make a profit on prorating of facility costs for teaching boating classes, but that squadrons may share these costs with students as necessary. (00-OC-41)

a motion to print 600 copies of the Cruise and Rendezvous Planning Guide at a cost of $775, with an initial free distribution to squadrons and the remaining copies to be sold at $5 each. (00-OC-42)

a motion to present New Orleans as the location of the 2003 spring Governing Board to the Grand Rapids Governing Board for approval. (00-OC-43)

a motion to print 200 copies of the District Conference Planning Guide at a cost of $525, with free distribution to all districts and remaining copies to be sold at $5 each. (00-OC-44)

a motion to endorse FUSA representatives to promote the USPS Affinity card at two boat shows. (00-OC-45)

a motion to endorse the electronic information policy and to present it to the fall 2000 Governing Board for confirmation. (00-OC-46)
a motion to approve $1,300 to print 10,000 Vessel Safety Check 204 forms. (00-OC-47)

a motion to approve $11,500 to implement an automated system that will allow districts and squadrons to update and access member-related information on the AS/400 computer system at headquarters. (00-OC-48)

a motion to send a letter from the chief commander offering life members the opportunity to make a contribution to USPS in lieu of their membership dues, on the condition that the request be made in relation to a specific future project. (00-OC-49)

a motion to pay two expense vouchers for the 2000 Annual Meeting received after the 60-day time limit. (00-OC-50)

a motion to assign Ft. Macon to D/27 subject to ratification by the Governing Board. (00-OC-51)

a motion to allow Cape Coral Power Squadron/22 to accept an undesignated bequest in excess of $10,000. (00-OC-52)

a motion to provide 5,000 copies of “This is USPS” to D/1 for use at an OpSail booth in Connecticut in June. (00-OC-53)

a motion asking the Committee on Rules to prepare amendments to the *USPS Bylaws* authorizing the chief commander to award family merit marks. (00-OC-54)

a motion to create a position entitled special assistant to the national executive officer for the purpose of maintaining the Bowsprit Program and that monthly statistics and reports will be provided to district commanders. (00-OC-55)

a motion to approve the structure of the Strategic Planning Task Force and to authorize the chief commander to invite designated individuals to serve on this committee. (00-OC-56)

a motion to authorize $6,000 to reimburse travel expenses and lodging for two days for members of the Strategic Planning Task Force at the fall Governing Board Meeting in Baltimore. (00-OC-57)

a motion to authorize Sarasota Power Squadron to accept a donation to its educational fund in the amount of approximately $52,000. (00-OC-58)

The Governing Board RATIFIED the actions as read. (00-GB-27)
P/C/C Arthur H. Farr, N, read the actions of the 8 June 2000 Operating Committee Meeting and moved for ratification of the actions.

- a motion to ratify the previous OCom approval to have 40 boat banners manufactured for use at OpSail 2000 at a cost not to exceed $5,800. (00-OC-59)

- a motion to authorize provisional squadron status for Norman Provisional Squadron, subject to ComRules approving their provisional squadron bylaws, and that this provisional squadron be assigned to D/31 for administrative purposes. (00-OC-60)

- a motion to allow students to retain their examination question booklets at the end of their computer-graded exams for S, CP, EM, IQ, ME, Sa and Wx and to submit only the bubble sheet answer forms to headquarters for grading, effective immediately. (00-OC-61)

- a motion ratifying the NEO’s previous authorization to purchase 1,200 copies of 2001 Nautical Almanacs at a cost of $13,500. (00-OC-62)

- a motion to amend the selling price of the Nautical Almanacs to $15. (00-OC-63)

- a motion that the NEO be authorized to exchange exam questions for all USPS courses with Canadian Sail and Power Squadrons. (00-OC-64)

- a motion to authorize the NEO to send 210 copies of *Boating Safety for Kids* to CPS for redistribution by CPS to all of their squadron and district training officers. (00-OC-65)

- a motion to ratify the previous OCom approval to accept the passing of either the Ohio Boating Education Course Final Exam or the Ohio Boating Education Course Home Study Course Proctored Proficiency Exam as satisfying the educational requirement for USPS membership. (00-OC-66)

- a motion concurring that the selling price for *Boat Smart* as previously established by the Governing Board must be charged to students, and that no additional charges may be made to that fee by squadrons other than facility charges and taxes as necessary. (00-OC-67)

- a motion to ratify the previous OCom approval to print the *New Member Orientation Manual* at a cost of $1,600. (00-OC-68)

- a motion to ask the Governing Board to approve New Orleans as the location of the spring GB site on 7-11 May 2003, at a rate of $142 a day. (00-OC-69)
a motion that USPS seek a sales tax exemption in the name of USPS in the state of Florida. (00-OC-70)

a motion to ratify the previous OCom approval to reprint 2,000 VSC 204 forms at a cost of approximately $500. (00-OC-71)

a motion to provide Vessel Examiner shirts to districts and squadrons in quantities of 10 or more at a selling price of $25 each plus shipping. (00-OC-72)

a motion to accept the USCG grant awarded to USPS in the sum of $206,000 to produce and televise a USPS National Safe Boating Quiz to air in May 2001. (00-OC-73)

a motion that OCom direct the VSCP ad hoc Committee to develop written procedures as required by the Memorandum of Agreement between the USCGAux and USPS for participation of USPS in the Vessel Safety Check Program that will restrict qualification and USPS participation as a vessel examiner to USPS members who are 18 years of age or older and that will require that the Vessel Check Form 204 (or its successor) be modified for use by all USPS vessel examiners to include provisions for the required signature of the owner or operator of the vessel being checked, together with an affirmative acknowledgment and disclaimer, as written. (00-OC-74)

a motion to allow the revitalized USPS ship’s wheel with ensign logo to be used by the Arizona Safe Boating Council for affiliation purposes only. (00-OC-75)

a motion that OCom endorse and recommend to the fall 2000 Governing Board an amendment to the USPS Bylaws that will restrict the activities and authority of any member encumbered with a legal disability under the laws of his or her state of residence, as well as authorize the requirements of consent and financial responsibility by the parent or legal representative of such persons, all as above set forth. (00-OC-76)

The Governing Board RATIFIED the actions as read. (00-GB-28)

The chief commander announced an attendance of 730.

Report of the Chief Commander

C/C Lance J. Jensen, N, presented a Life Saving Award to Cdr. William Eibach, N, and Lt Evie Eibach, S, St. Petersburg Power and Sail/22.
Report of the ad hoc Committee on New Squadron Development

P/R/C Frank Penny, N, reported that although strong efforts are being made to improve membership, it is also necessary to develop new squadrons. He said that the program is working as demonstrated by the five new squadrons chartered since the Annual Meeting. One of the new squadrons was chartered in only 73 days. There are 426 members in these five new squadrons, of which 311 are new members or reinstatements. He encouraged all members to build new squadrons.

Report of the ad hoc Vessel Safety Check Committee

P/D/C Luis Ojeda, JN, reported on the MOU signed with USCGAux in January. He said that since that time, cooperation between the two organizations has been exceptional. He has received information that 500 USPS vessel examiners have been certified since 1 May 2000. P/D/C Ojeda reminded members that this program is a unique opportunity to invite the vessel owner to join USPS. He said the official VSC mascot is Popeye and that a Popeye display for use in promoting vessel safety checks at local marinas and other facilities will be provided to squadrons.

Report of the National Boating Federation (NBF)

P/V/C Robert P. David, N, reported that a long-term goal being tracked by NBF is to have a land-based Loran-C system and a satellite-based GPS system. NBF has just completed phase one of a USCG grant to study the use of cellular telephones on boats. They are also working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on shallow harbor dredging. P/V/C David said that NBF sponsors a joint annual award with USPS that recognizes each squadron with the highest ratio of boating course registrations versus membership. He reminded SEOs to submit all ED-27 forms to headquarters.

The chief commander adjourned the meeting at 1730 after Father Wilfred M. Dumm, N, delivered the benediction and the Colors were retired.

V/C Ernest G. Marshburn, N
National Secretary

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ADOPTED

- A motion to merge the Computer Systems and Graphics Arts committees and rename it the Information Technology Committee. (00-GB-10)

- A motion to change the name of the Teaching Aids Committee to the Educational Graphics Committee. (00-GB-11)

- A motion that the USPS Bylaws requirement that applications for new squadron charters be made by a group of at least 25 active members be amended to allow for circumstances when an application is made by less than 25 active members but, in the opinion of the Operating Committee, warrants approval. (00-GB-12)

- A motion to amend the USPS Bylaws stating that changing a squadron’s geographical name should require the approval of its district council, the Committee on Rules and the Governing Board (00-GB-13)

- A motion to amend the USPS Bylaws prohibiting squadrons, districts and auxiliaries from applying individually to the Internal Revenue Service for 501(c)(3) status. (00-GB-14)

- A motion to amend the USPS Bylaws to permit the Governing Board to delegate its authority to approve squadron burgees and district flags. (00-GB-15)

- A motion that the Governing Board delegate authority for approving squadron burgees and district flags to the national administrative officer with the advice and recommendation of the Flag and Etiquette Committee. (00-GB-16)

- A motion to elect 17 general members of the Governing Board, a new rear and staff commander for the ITCom, a new member of the Committee on Rules, and a new member of the Educational Fund trustees.

- A motion that the 29 January 2000 ratification of actions of the Operating Committee reflected in the subsequent minutes of its meeting held on 26 January 2000 be confirmed. (00-GB-18)

- A motion to ratify the actions of the 11 March 2000 Operating Committee as reflected in the minutes of the meeting. (00-GB-19)
• A motion to designate the VSC shirt and hat as an official USPS uniform and the Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (00-GB-20)

• A motion to hold the spring Governing Board on 7-11 May 2003 at the Sheraton Hotel, New Orleans, at a rate of $142 a day. The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (00-GB-21)

• Approval of the District 18 resolution to change the spoken designation of “Full Certificate” to “Senior Navigator.” (00-GB-22)

• Approval of the second portion of the District 23 resolution to require that educational policies of USPS must be approved by the Governing Board and not by the Educational Department of USPS alone. (00-GB-24)

• A motion to approve the development and implementation, in full partnership with the USCGAux, of a NASBLA-approved, multimedia, electronic boating course to be offered in both an Internet and a CD-ROM format and requiring a proctored final examination that will satisfy the educational requirement for USPS membership. (00-GB-25)

• A motion to formally dissolve the Boston Power Squadron/12, Flint River Power Squadron/22 and Milehigh Power Squadron/28. (00-GB-26)

• A motion to ratify the actions of the 6 May 2000 Operating Committee. (00-GB-27)

• A motion to ratify the actions of the 8 June 2000 Operating Committee. (00-GB-28)

DEFEATED

• A motion to remand the District 18 resolution to the Educational Department for further study. (00-GB-1)

• The first part of the District 23 resolution that would require members to take Advanced Grade course and module exams and sight folders in their traditional or prescribed sequence. (00-GB-2)