Chief Commander G. Leslie Johnson, SN, convened the meeting at 0930.

Jewish lay leader Gail Nachman, SN, delivered the invocation, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by N/F/Lt Theodore C. Kontos, SN, and the singing of the national anthem.

C/C Johnson administered the new member pledge to Brandon Nordstrom, a local Sea Scout who assisted in presenting the colors.

Introduction of Past Chief Commanders

P/C/C Theodore H. Smith, SN, introduced the other past chief commanders present in the order of their terms:

P/C/C Raymond A. Finley Jr., SN, 1982-1983 (Lackawanna/4)
P/C/C Richard W. Miner, SN, 1986-1987 (Birmingham/9)
P/C/C Lance J. Jensen, SN, 2000-2001 (Bellevue/16)

P/R/C William E. Husted, SN, chairman of the ad hoc Government and Partner Relations Committee, introduced honored guests:

- Virgil Chambers, executive director, National Safe Boating Council
- Pam Dillon, executive director, American Canoe Association
- Capt. James Gardner, chief of Marine Chart Division, Office of Coast Survey, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- Ken Forster, CD, OCS, NOS, NOAA
- John Malatak, chief of Program Development and Implementation Division, USCG Office of Boating Safety
- Serge St.-Martin, JN, chief commander, Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons
- Marty Law, marine educator, Oregon State Marine Board
- Tara Wallace, CS, NOS, NOAA
- Duane Morrison, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Vice Commodore Steven Budar, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
- Jeff Wernli, founder, MCE Network


Virgil Chambers, Marty Law and Pam Dillon presented P/C John M. Malatak, AP, Mid-Potomac/5, with the 2005 NSBC Boating Safety Hall of Fame Award, which honors individuals who have shown exemplary leadership and performed outstanding service on behalf of safe boating.

C/C Johnson presented an outstanding service award to P/C Elton G. Cleveland, P, Bremerton/16, a 34-year member with 33 merit marks who celebrated his 100th birthday in May 2005.

The national secretary declared a quorum present.
The chief commander announced an attendance of 495.

**Report of the Committee on Rules**

R/C James C. Acheson, SN, designated P/C Benjamin J. Sooy III, AP, as parliamentarian for the meeting and explained the voting rules.

R/C Acheson reported that the Committee on Rules received a request from the Planning Committee that the maximum number of members permitted on its committee as specified in the USPS Bylaws be increased from nine to 11. He made a motion that the first sentence of USPS Bylaws, Section 5.7.5 be amended to read:

*There shall be a Planning Committee of the Governing Board composed of not less than five nor more than eleven members, of whom one shall be chairman.*

The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (2005-GB-15)

R/C Acheson reported that the Committee on Rules received a request from the members of Roanoke Valley Power Squadron/5 to change the squadron’s name to Smith Mountain Lake Sail and Power Squadron. He said ComRules had determined that this proposed name has geographic significance and does not conflict with the name of any other squadron and therefore complies with USPS Bylaws, Section 7.1 and was approved by the District 5 Council. R/C Acheson said that the Committee on Rules determined that all requirements to effect this name change had been met and recommended the Governing Board change the name of Roanoke Valley Power Squadron to Smith Mountain Lake Sail and Power Squadron. The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (2005-GB-16)

**Approval of the Minutes**

C/C Johnson asked for corrections or additions to the minutes of the Governing Board meeting held on 4 June 2005. Hearing none, he declared the minutes approved as distributed.

The Governing Board ADOPTED a motion entertained by C/C Johnson to confirm the
4 June 2005 ratification of Operating Committee actions reflected in the minutes of its 1 to 4 June 2005 meetings. (2005-GB-17)

Report of the Committee on Nominations

R/C Jerry Grofman, SN, reported that in accordance with USPS Bylaws, Section 5.5.1, the Committee on Nominations recommended the election of the members listed below:

For general members of the governing board:

Denise Brooks, AP  Port Huron/9  
Dawn Long, AP  Greensboro/27  
Jeannette Parsons, AP  Coral Ridge Sail &/8  
Bruce Theriault, AP  Merrimac River Sail &/18

The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (2005-GB-18)

R/C Grofman reminded members who serve in district and squadron positions that they may also serve at the national level. He encouraged members to file their resume online at www.usps.org/national/comnom/resume.php3.

Report of the National Law Officer

R/C James D. Richlak, SN, reported that the Law Committee had reviewed several national agreements and assisted districts and squadrons with risk management, insurance coverage and other issues.

R/C Richlak encouraged squadron commanders to perform an annual legal checkup. He stated that squadrons should appoint a law officer, review new and existing contracts, headquarters operations, scheduled boat shows, required tax filings (particularly 990EZ or 990 requirements) state tax exemptions, squadron incorporation status, cooperative agreements, and insurance policies. In addition, squadrons should document all appointed officers in their minutes.
R/C Richlak reported on developing a memorandum of understanding with Maptech concerning Harborchart.org. He said that this program involves collaboration on the design, development and operation of a harbor information database and website that will also provide member benefits.

The national law officer reported that an agreement with the U.S. Postal Service has been signed. United States Power Squadrons will use “USPS” in an environment related to boating or marine-activities and the U.S. Postal Service will use “USPS” in the postal sense. He said this is important because both the U.S. Postal Service and USPS have adopted the position that there is no likelihood of confusion as long as marks are used in their respective environments.

R/C Richlak reported that an affinity credit card agreement has been signed with Chase Manhattan Bank. LawCom also approved a prototype MOU for entering into agreements with state boating law administrators.

**Report of the Planning Committee**

R/C Alan F. Wentworth, SN, reported that the Planning Committee distributed three member-retention surveys during the past summer. The first went to randomly selected members, the second went to members from four districts with high member retention, and the third went to former members. He reported that survey results will be available at the 2006 Annual Meeting and will be posted on the committee’s website under “Resources.”

He reported that the USPS Strategic Plan is in Phase IV, which involves examining the plan, its use since inception and its appropriateness for the next four years. He said that the original strategic goals are in place and that the focus has been shifted to developing district and squadron leadership. He reported that a strategic goal on financial stability has been added. He stated that revisions to the Strategic Plan will be presented to the delegates to the 2006 Annual Meeting.

R/C Wentworth reported that USPS Bylaws protect against the unauthorized filing of district resolutions. He noted these requirements are not always followed when resolutions are submitted. He suggested that districts consult with the Planning Committee by contacting the D/Plan/Net coordinator for help in formulating and submitting their resolutions.
R/C Wentworth reported that the Planning Committee was assigned to report on the following resolution from District 5:

> Be it resolved that concurrently with the submission of a petition to the national executive officer to form a provisional squadron a copy of the petition be sent to the district commander whose district would include the area to be served by proposed provisional squadron.

R/C Wentworth reported that after this resolution was filed, the provisional squadron checklist and the procedures in the *Operations Manual* were modified to include notification of the appropriate district commander in the early stages of the provisional squadron process. He recommended that the Governing Board vote against this resolution. The Governing Board DEFEATED the resolution. (2005-GB-2)

R/C Wentworth reported that the Planning Committee was assigned to report on the following resolution from District 7:

> The Committee on Rules prepare and propose an amendment to the Bylaws to authorize district commanders to appoint an alternate general member of the Governing Board in the event that an elected general member is unable to attend a Governing Board meeting; and that the alternate general member of the Governing Board be given voting credentials upon presentation of a letter of authorization signed by the district commander.

He reported that the Committee on Nominations is responsible for nominating all elected officers and the Governing Board is responsible for approving these nominations. He said that general members are elected to the Governing Board and that current procedures do not allow appointment of alternates for general members. He recommended that the Governing Board vote against this resolution. The Governing Board DEFEATED the resolution. (2005-GB-3)

**Report of the Marketing and Public Relations Committee**

R/C Darrell G. Allison, AP, reported that USPS, Boaters World and King Features sponsored a booth featuring Popeye characters at the 2005 BellSouth Greater Jacksonville (Fla.)
Kingfish Tournament to promote the use of personal flotation devices.

R/C Allison reported that more than 15,000 people visited the USPS booth at the 2005 Boy Scout Jamboree.

He reported that new graphic public service announcements were distributed to 70 boating magazines. He thanked the USPS Educational Fund for funding the production and distribution costs.

R/C Allison reported that a new boating course graduate decal, featuring recreational watercraft graphics, is available at headquarters for $0.20 each.

R/C Allison reported that a Ship’s Bell Award will be presented to Ventura Power Squadron/13 at its fall district conference. Ventura Power Squadron partnered with the Santa Barbara and Ventura counties harbor departments, the National Park Service and NOAA to develop a four-color brochure that was distributed to more than 35,000 boating families.

He reported that a new brochure, *Who We Are*, has been developed to target the boating industry and government agencies. The brochure will replace *This is USPS*.

R/C Allison reported that the USPS National Safe Boating Test II is complete. A copy will be distributed to all squadrons, districts, rear commanders, OCom members, USCGAux flotillas and divisions, and NASBLA representatives. Copies will also be provided to West Marine and Boaters World for loan to boaters at no charge.

He reported on a marketing opportunity for squadrons to give a 10-minute presentation to anglers who attend fishing seminars at Boaters World stores. Squadrons should contact Stf/C Robert A. Green, N, for further information. He reported that MCE Television Network is scheduling 30-second spots promoting USPS.

R/C Allison reported that 14 districts and 64 squadrons received Cooperative Advertising funds totaling $7,494.15 to date in 2005. He reminded districts and squadrons that the 2005 Cooperative Advertising year ends on 31 Oct. and that program details are available on the committee’s website at www.usps.org/national/pr/Ideas.
Report of the Finance Committee

R/C Joseph R. Mesenburg, SN, reported that investments managed by the Finance Committee totaled $2,835,902.97 as of 31 July 2005. He said these investments are divided into three major portfolios. The first portfolio is district and squadron funds, totaling $1,021,480.00, which are invested in 10 certificates of deposit, with staggered maturity dates at a 3.02 percent average rate of return. He reported that this investment management service is available to all districts and squadrons and that the Finance Committee combines funds to purchase certificates of deposit at the highest possible interest rates. The second portfolio is the restricted Endowment Fund, which totaled $811,168.32. He reported that the Century Fund is a vehicle to raise money for the Endowment Fund, with the goal to raise $10 million by USPS’ 100th anniversary in 2014. The third portfolio is USPS investments, valued at $1,003,254.65. R/C Mesenburg reported that the total investment return for the first eight months of fiscal year 2005 was 11.8 percent.

R/C Mesenburg reported that efforts to reduce operating expenses have been successful but revenue remains a problem. He stated that as he first reported at the 2004 Spring Governing Board in Pittsburgh, a nominal yearly dues increase (equal to the Consumer Price Index) would be fiscally prudent. He reported that USPS Bylaws, Section 5.72b, requires that the Governing Board approve dues increases. He presented the following motion to the Governing Board to approve the first step of a five-year plan to increase dues:

A $1.80 dues increase for active members, a $.90 dues increase for additional active members and a $.45 dues increase for adult family members, effective in the spring of 2006 (for the 2007 dues year).

The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (2005-GB-19)

R/C Mesenburg reported that these dues increases will be effective on 1 June 2006. He stated this dues increase will have to be presented to the Governing Board for the next four years in order to accomplish its goal. He noted that junior family member dues will remain at $2 per year and apprentice dues will remain at $12 per year.

He reported that the national treasurer, the Finance and Budget committees, the headquarters staff and the national bridge had put in considerable time and effort to produce the
2006 budget. R/C Mesenburg presented the 2006 budget for approval, and the Governing Board ADOPTED a motion to approve it. (2005-GB-20)

Report of the National Treasurer

V/C John T. Alter, SN, reported a deficit of $146,658 as of 31 July 2005. He reported that expenses are down $64,877 from one year ago and are in line with the budget. He reported that the national administrative officer’s budget is up from one year ago due to Power of One cash and equipment expenses. He reported that the national treasurer’s budget is up from last year due to increased insurance premiums and costs associated with additional 2006 dues renewal materials. He reported that all other departments are at or below last year’s figures.

V/C Alter reported that revenues trail one year ago by $73,618. He reported that net educational sales exceed the previous year, indicating that the new courses are successful. Net Ship’s Store sales are more than double a year ago, and THE ENSIGN advertising sales revenue has increased. He reported that as of 31 July 2005, active membership was down by 1,778 and family membership was down by 312 from one year ago. He reported that the 2006 renewal rate did not improve over the previous year. He congratulated Decatur/20 for having a 100 percent renewal rate and District 7 for having the lowest loss rate for all membership classes. He reported that 7,256 former members (2005 nonrenewals) were mailed a 2006 dues invoice, and 467 renewed. He encouraged squadrons to contact their 2006 nonrenewals.

The national treasurer reported that 210 squadrons in 19 districts participated in the VHQAB trial: 20,767 members renewed, 17,144 (83 percent) by check and 3,623 (17 percent) renewed by credit card. Electronic transfers were made twice a month to squadrons, districts and the Educational Fund. He reported that national absorbed the cost of mailing second dues notices to members, credit card processing fees, which averaged 2.4 percent, and lockbox processing fees, which average $1 per check. He reported that there is some additional interest income on the accelerated cash flow and estimated that eliminating the three-month free period for new members joining VHQAB squadrons brought $5,000 additional income to national based on last year’s new member recruitment. He said that squadrons could receive additional revenues as well, depending on how and if they prorated their squadron dues during March, April and May. He reported that the results of VHQAB evaluation forms are being studied.

- 9 - Governing Board 10 Sept. 2005
V/C Alter stated that in summary, the VHQAB trial has proven to be a successful alternative to the traditional dues-collection method. He said that he would recommend a bylaws amendment at the 2006 Annual Meeting to permit VHQAB as an optional dues-collection method.

The national treasurer reported that the affinity credit card contract with Chase Manhattan Bank was signed. The guaranteed amount under the new contract has been reduced from $100,000 to $40,000 per year. He reported that during the last five years, only 106 squadrons earned more than $100 per year and 138 earned less than $25. The highest amount paid to an individual squadron in 2004 was $336.43. He said that districts now earn 10 percent of what squadrons earn, which will be greatly reduced under the new contract. He reported that USPS will receive $75 under the new contract for each new account, which is triple the amount squadrons now receive. He said that this presents an opportunity for squadrons to greatly increase their portion of the revenue sharing. He reported that the Operating Committee approved national retaining the $40,000 annual guarantee. The $75 new-account revenue will be shared as follows: National will retain $20; districts will receive $5, and squadrons will receive $50.

**Report of the National Secretary**

V/C Robert A. Baldridge, SN, reported that the contents of the 2005 Fall Governing Board seat packets are posted on the Secretary’s Department website and will be posted for future national meetings.

V/C Baldridge reported that headquarters finished processing both VHQAB and traditional dues collection. Nineteen districts and 210 squadrons representing 27,482 members participated in the 2006 VHQAB test. He reported that dues status reports and squadron and district deposit reports are updated daily and available at www.usps.org/dues/reports. He noted that members were able to make contributions to the Century Fund with their dues payment and are now able to make donations at any time at www.usps.org/dues.

He reminded squadrons that some new members have anniversary dates other than 1 June, which means these members will receive renewal notices throughout the year. He encouraged squadrons to check their member status reports regularly to ensure that these members are contacted and personally asked to renew. He also noted that new members in
VHQAB squadrons can pay their dues by credit card. Credit card vouchers were mailed to participating squadrons in March, and additional copies are available at headquarters.

V/C Baldridge reported that copies of the September/October issue of THE ENSIGN wrapped with a letter from the chief commander and a membership application, are being shipped with all boating course orders. He encouraged squadrons to give a copy to each boating course student.

He reported that headquarters continues to work to reduce costs. He said that headquarters and THE ENSIGN are on track to come in under budget despite a greatly reduced 2005 budget, rising expenses and higher member demand for services. He noted that as a cost-saving measure, the September and October issues of THE ENSIGN were combined. The December/January issues will also be combined.

THE ENSIGN Committee is focusing on magazine content and advertising. V/C Baldridge reported that the number of advertisers has increased over previous years and that advertising remains key to the financial success of the magazine. He reported that the ad exchange program with other magazines, which is targeted to increase the visibility of USPS, is working well.

The Publications Committee is reviewing more than 400 squadron newsletters and advising editors.

Members of the Information Technology Committee met at headquarters in August and focused on enhancing the Ship’s Store website and AS/400 programming. V/C Baldridge reported that in June, a new three-tier password system was implemented for DB2000. The new system employs a user password, an updater password and an administrator password, which allows squadron commanders to allocate passwords according to individual needs without compromising security.

The Operations Manual Committee completed a major revision and update to the manual, which is available online at www.usps.org/national/om. Individual chapters can be viewed or downloaded, and a “What’s Changed” document is available. Several chapters on the national
organization have been combined, and many chapters have been renumbered, with Chapter 16 being set aside for merit marks.

The national secretary reported that an exciting preholiday Ship’s Store catalog was published in the September/October issue of THE ENSIGN. The Ship’s Store website is being upgraded to allow better access and to increase sales.

The Flag and Etiquette Committee is reviewing squadron burgees, district flags and 50-year recognitions. V/C Baldridge presented approved 50th anniversary burgees for Ten Mile/7, Marathon/8, Port Clinton/29 and Portland/32.

V/C Baldridge introduced the headquarters staff present: Mary Catherine Berube, headquarters director; Lena Padro, manager, membership services; Kathy Kesterson, manager, administrative services; and Yvonne Hill, editor, THE ENSIGN.

V/C Baldridge reported that he was assigned to report on the following resolution from District 10:

That United States Power Squadrons create and maintain at some conspicuous place where any member may have access to a list of all policy statements adopted by the Governing Board which are in effect and relate to matters which may concern the organization’s relationships with outside parties or governmental entities; these being the fundamental statements of positions of United States Power Squadrons, on such matters as education, boating safety and the environment.

The national secretary stated that the Secretary’s Department is developing a website of all policy statements, which should be online by early 2006. He recommended that the Governing Board approve the resolution, and the Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (2005-GB-21)

V/C Baldridge reported that a resolution from District 12 was assigned to the Flag and Etiquette Committee. He stated that the Flag and Etiquette Committee recommended and the District 12 commander concurred that the Governing Board refer this resolution back to the Flag
and Etiquette Committee to be reported on at the 2006 Annual Meeting. The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (2005-GB-22)

**Report of the National Administrative Officer**

V/C Creighton C. Maynard Jr., SN, reported that the USPS cookbook, *By Land or By Sea*, will be sold at a preholiday sale price of $19 during the 2005 Fall Governing Board Meeting in Portland, Ore. There are 1,800 copies in inventory.

V/C Maynard called on R/C Carmen Adame, AP, chairman, Auxiliary Advisory Committee, to present the Membership Enhancement Award, an annual award given to the auxiliary with the largest percentage of increase in membership. The 2005 award was presented to the Coco-Nauts of Cocoa Beach/23, which had increased its membership by 40 percent. The runners-up were New Orleans/15 with a 22 percent increase; Helpers of Yachtsmen of Ft. Walton Beach/15, with a 20 percent increase; and Lady Skippers, Ft. Vancouver/32, with a 15 percent increase.

The 2005-2006 Auxiliary Directory has been published and mailed to auxiliary presidents, squadron commanders, district commanders and OCom.

The Squadron Activities Committee reported that 17 members have joined the USPS Amateur Radio Net since January 2005.

V/C Maynard encouraged squadrons to give their boating course students a copy of the September/October issue of THE ENSIGN wrapped with a letter from the chief commander and a membership application. A copy of *What’s In it For You?* will be inserted into course manuals.

V/C Maynard invited Stf/C Roberta Dougherty, SN, to report on the 2005 Boy Scout Jamboree. Stf/C Dougherty reported that the USPS/Boy Scout jamboree team welcomed more than 15,000 visitors to the USPS promotional booth. Scout leaders were encouraged to call (888) FOR USPS for local squadron contact information. A special USPS/BSA National Jamboree 2005 patch was awarded to 500 Scouts who successfully completed four boating safety challenges. She said that this was a great opportunity for civic service, community outreach and
membership. Stf/C Dougherty presented certificates of appreciation to members who assisted at the exhibit.

V/C Maynard reported that the Power Of One Program was scheduled to end on 31 Oct. 2005 and that the OCom had extended the program through 31 Oct. 2006. He reported that during the past two years, two squadrons achieved grand squadron status and were awarded $2,900 to purchase educational equipment; 15 squadrons achieved elite squadron status and were awarded $1,300 to purchase educational equipment; three members achieved the Admiral's Club level for recruiting 15 new members; 1,833 members were credited with influencing 4,474 new members to join USPS; 208 members earned Power of One caps and 62 members earned Power of One jackets.

Power of One hats were presented to 59 members who influenced five new members to join; 21 Power of One jackets to 21 members who influenced 10 new members to join, and the elite squadron award was presented to Clinton/30.

The Leadership Development Committee completed Operations Training modules I, II and III and updated the CD-ROM.

The Member Benefits Committee is focusing on new benefits at the local and national levels. The committee is also developing a program to provide links to other boating-related websites where members can purchase products at a discount and USPS will receive a commission.

**Report of the National Educational Officer**

V/C Spencer P. Anderson, SN, reported that the *Marine Amateur Radio Guide*, the first in a new series of learning guides published by International Marine/McGraw-Hill, is now available for purchase. He reported that discounted copies are available from headquarters and at bookstores. He reported that *Knots, Bends and Hitches* and the *GMDSS Guide*, complete with DSC simulator, will be published in fall 2005.

V/C Anderson reported that the USPS virtual bookstore can be accessed at www.usps.org/national/eddept. This virtual bookstore provides a link to the McGraw-
Hill/International Marine website, which offers a discount on its full product line. All NOAA charts will be available from the Maptech charter server free to members beginning approximately 1 October 2005.

The national educational officer reported that a USPS-CPS project team was formed to develop a new guide, *The Boatowner’s Guide to Electronics*, which will cover all marine electronics and serve as a reference for other USPS courses.

He reported that the content and presentation of the new Boating and Seamanship courses far exceeds that of free state-offered courses.

V/C Anderson reported that squadrons taught 4,757 fewer boating course students during the past year compared with the previous year. He reported that 41 squadrons did not teach a single member course the previous year and that 62 taught only one member course. He encouraged all squadrons to teach at least one public course each year and to increase the number of member courses taught.

The national educational officer reported receiving requests that the Maptech Chart Navigator Training CD-ROM include digital charting in specific areas. He reported that charts have been added for the Great Lakes (Niagara area on Lake Ontario and the Chicago area on Lake Michigan) and the Northwest (Seattle and Puget Sound areas). The new CD-ROMs will be distributed with the Piloting and Advanced Piloting 2005 fall courses and with The Squadron Boating Course after the current supply is exhausted.

He reported that C-MAP/USA is offering a chartplotter model in a 4-by-6-by-4- inch box that connects to a projector or computer monitor to demonstrate chartplotter operation in a simulation mode using real charts. He said that C-MAP/USA will consign 12 units to USPS at cost. He said that additional details will be available soon.

**Report of the National Executive Officer**

V/C Ernest G. Marshburn, SN, expressed his thanks to District 5 for their hospitality during his recent visit to the District 5 Summer Rendezvous.
V/C Marshburn reported that Tri-State/7 had met all the requirements for dissolution. He recommended that the Governing Board approve the dissolution of Tri-State Power Squadron. The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (2005-GB-23)

V/C Marshburn reported that the National Meetings Committee received a proposed contract from the Detroit Marriott Renaissance Center to host the 2008 Governing Board Meeting. The Governing Board ADOPTED a motion to hold the 2008 Governing Board Meeting at the Detroit Marriott Renaissance Center, from 3 to 8 Sept. 2008, at a room rate of $126 per night. (2005-GB-24)

The national executive officer reported that the National Meetings Committee received a proposed contract from the Hyatt Regency Orange County, Anaheim, Calif., to host the 2009 Annual Meeting. The Governing Board ADOPTED a motion to hold the 2009 Annual Meeting at the Hyatt Regency Orange County, Anaheim, Calif., from 14 to 22 Feb. 2009, at a room rate of $135 per night. (2005-GB-25)

The national executive officer called on P/R/C Robert A. Keller, SN, special assistant to the national executive officer, to present the 2005 Bowsprit awards. He stated that these awards are given to qualifying districts that experience yearly growth in total active membership, boating course registration, squadron educational program graduates, vessel safety checks, Cooperative Charting and retention for active members. Eleven districts received the 2005 Bowsprit Award: 1, 6, 14, 15, 22, 26, 27, 30, 31, 32 and 33.

V/C Marshburn reported on the regional OCom meeting initiative, stating that two had been scheduled for 2006. He reported that priority was given to multidistrict conferences and special occasions such as district anniversaries. The first, from 31 March to 2 April, will be hosted by districts 7, 11 and 29, and the second, from 29 Sept. to 1 Oct., will be hosted by districts 13 and 28. He reported that the goals of this initiative are to: a) create more effective and efficient “Reach out and Touch” opportunities involving national officers and the members they represent, especially those who have never attended a national meeting and perhaps rarely attend district functions; b) enhance communications between national officers and their local counterparts at the squadron and district level; c) promote Leadership-by-Example by creating training and development opportunities that lead to skill and leadership team building at the district and squadron level; and d) to try something that’s Out of the Box.

- 16 - Governing Board 10 Sept. 2005
He reported that the Governing Board Live initiative funded by the USPS Educational Fund involves producing and broadcasting special USPS educational programs occurring during national meetings via webcast.

The Cooperative Charting Committee reported that NOS will maintain Cooperative Charting credits through 31 March 2006. USPS will begin retaining credits and presenting awards after that date.

The Recreational Boating Safety Committee has been invited to attend Confluence 2005, Ohio’s statewide boating conference sponsored by the Ohio Department of Resources. The committee will sponsor an in-the-water PFD demonstration at the 2006 Annual Meeting.

The Squadron Development Committee reported that 28 squadrons have been chartered since the provisional squadron program began in January 2000.

The national executive officer reported that the External Grant Funding Team is working with the ad hoc Government and Partners Relations Committee to develop a Harbor Watch Train-the-Trainer program.

**Report of the USPS Educational Fund**

Russell K. Gray, chairman, USPS Educational Fund, reported that the fund had recently received bequests totaling $190,900. He reported that the balance in the fund was $2,240,000 and that the trustees awarded grants totaling $32,000 in 2005.

**Report of the National Safe Boating Council**

Virgil Chambers, executive director, National Safe Boating Council, encouraged squadrons to apply for $1,000 Recreational Boating Safety Grants.

Mr. Chambers reported that the Boating Safety Youth Program Award recognizes individuals and organizations who have developed and successfully implemented innovative
youth boating education programs targeting safety issues of national interest. He encouraged squadrons to visit the NSBC website at www.safeboatingcouncil.org/bwa.htm to learn more about the BSYP Award.

**Report of the ad hoc Government and Partners Relations Committee**

P/R/C William E. Husted, SN, reported that the ad hoc Government and Partners Relations Committee is divided into five teams. The legislative team monitors pending legislation, maintains contact with government leaders and ensures compliance with state MOU requirements. The lobbying team informs the chief commander of important national issues impacting not only USPS but all recreational boaters. In this capacity, the committee prepared a position paper, which was approved by the OCom, stating USPS’ opposition to a proposed bill to severely restrict the duties of the National Weather Service. The homeland security team works closely with the U.S. Coast Guard and USCGAux on the America’s Waterway Watch program. The official guests team makes arrangements for all guests. The partners/liaison team identifies and pursues formalized partnerships with other allied organizations in the recreational boating field.

P/R/C Husted invited members to visit the committee’s website at www.usps.org/national/govprcom.

**Report of the Past Chief Commander**

P/C/C Theodore H. Smith, SN, reported on resolutions from districts 4 and 5 concerning teaching and selling elective courses to the public. These resolutions were assigned to the Operating Committee, and P/C/C Smith stated that the Operating Committee requested additional time to consider the ramifications of this radical change as it considers declining membership and fewer courses being taught. P/C/C Smith moved that a vote on these resolutions be referred back to the Operating Committee for recommendation to be voted on at the 2006 Annual Meeting. The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (2005-GB-26)

P/C/C Smith reported that the following resolution from District 5 was assigned to the Operating Committee:
Whereas, it is the goal of United States Power Squadrons to retain and increase its membership; and
Whereas, an inequity has become apparent regarding family merit marks and the restriction on those merit marks as they relate to obtaining senior member status; and
Whereas, family members who earn family merit marks and later change their status from family member to active or additional active member are restricted in the use of any earned family merit mark to qualify for senior member status; and
Whereas, the retention of members negatively affected by the Bylaws restrictions is just becoming apparent, since family merit marks were only authorized five years ago; now, therefore, be it
Resolved, that USPS propose, for Governing Board approval, appropriate changes in its Bylaws to rectify the inequity which currently exists between well-earned family merit marks and active or additional active merit marks, as they relate to obtaining senior member status.

P/C/C Smith stated that USPS Bylaws allow family merit marks to count toward earning senior member status, but that only active members may attain the status of senior, life or emeritus member. To be designated a senior member, an active member must have paid active member dues for at least five years and earned five merit marks; to be designated a life member, an active member must have paid active member dues for at least 25 years and earned 25 merit marks, and to be designated an emeritus member, an active member must have paid active member dues for at least 50 years and earned 50 merit marks. P/C/C Smith stated that based on the above, this resolution was moot. D/C Dick Nitschke, SN, District 5, requested to address the Governing Board. He said that District 5 agreed that USPS Bylaws allow transferring family merit marks to count toward senior member status. He said that the District 5 resolution did not address the active membership time requirement. D/C Nitschke requested that the Governing Board allow District 5 to withdraw the resolution. The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion, and the resolution was withdrawn. (2005-GB-27)

P/C/C Theodore H. Smith, SN, reviewed the actions taken by the OCom during its meetings held on 7 to 10 Sept. 2005.
1. A motion approving provisional squadron status for Kanawha River Provisional Squadron, effective 8 Sept. 2005. This provisional squadron will be assigned to District 7 for administrative purposes.

2. A motion to request that the Governing Board approve dissolution of Tri-State/7.

3. A motion to amend the 1 June 2005 Operating Committee minutes by removing the approval of Lake Martin Provisional Squadron and to subsequently approve these minutes as amended.

4. A motion to request that the Governing Board approve holding the 2008 Governing Board Meeting at the Detroit Marriott Renaissance Center, from 3 to 8 Sept. 2008, at a room rate of $126 per night, and the 2009 Annual Meeting at the Hyatt Regency Orange County, Anaheim, Calif., from 14 to 22 Feb. 2009, at a room rate of $135 per night.

5. A motion to request that the Governing Board delay action until the 2006 Annual Meeting on the District 4 and District 5 resolutions concerning open enrollment for USPS elective courses.

6. A motion to recommend that the Governing Board vote against the District 5 resolution to allow senior member status for family members.

7. A motion to approve the Power of One Program, as proposed, effective 1 Oct. 2005, for a period of one year, and to allocate $2,000 for individual incentive awards.

8. A motion to update the names on a corporate resolution specifying the individuals allowed to sign USPS financial instruments.

9. A motion to sign a corporate resolution to authorize purchasing a certificate of deposit at Key Bank.
10. A motion to adopt a new revenue-sharing program for the Chase Bank affinity credit card program.

11. A motion to approve spending up to $1,575 to purchase 500 each of stick-on pocket easels, 11-by-17-inch easels and 8.5-by-11.5-inch easels.

12. A motion to approve spending $2,500 from Century Fund earnings to purchase 20,000 copies of the brochure *Who We Are*.

13. A motion to approve a third staff commander for the Instructor Development Committee.

Members attending the Governing Board Meeting ADOPTED P/C/C Smith’s motion to ratify these OCom actions at its 7 to 10 September 2005 meetings. (2005-GB-28)

**Report of the Chief Commander**

C/C G. Leslie Johnson, SN, reported that in July 2005 he and his wife, Mary Lou, attended the memorial service in July 2005 for Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons C/C Howard Peck, SN. He stated that many USPS members attended the service and that C/C Peck was a member of Tar River/27. C/C Johnson pledged USPS’ support to new C/C Serge St.-Martin, JN.

C/C Johnson thanked members for their donations to Hurricane Katrina victims, totaling $4,029, that were collected during the Portland Governing Board.

The chief thanked the national bridge for its efforts to control expenses during 2005.

C/C Johnson encouraged members to use the chief commander’s representatives at district conferences as a resource for national information.

The chief reported that members who are interested in lobbying on behalf of USPS should contact him. He stated that the OCom must approve all lobbying efforts.

He reported on pending MOUs with the USACE and the USCGAux, which he anticipated would be signed at the 2006 Annual Meeting.

- 21 - Governing Board 10 Sept. 2005
C/C Johnson complimented and thanked all members who represented USPS at the 2005 National Scout Jamboree. He encouraged squadrons to teach a boating course to interested scouts when contacted by local Boy Scout leaders.

The chief reported that districts and squadrons should update bylaws more than five years old.

He reported that the Operating Committee is studying a leadership-training program for squadron officers that will target administrative officers. He said that the program would engage professional teachers and motivate future leaders.

**Report of the National Boating Federation**

P/V/C Robert P. David, SN, past president, National Boating Federation, reported that the reauthorization of Wallop-Breaux Funding is complete. He reported that NBF opposes Senate Bill 786, which proposes taking weather-forecasting responsibilities away from NOAA.

P/V/C David reported that he represents USPS and NBF to the European Boating Association. He reported that the EBA is focusing on the European Commission’s proposal to require boaters in European waters to have an International Certificate of Competency. P/V/C David reported that currently boaters who hold this certificate can move freely among European countries.

**Report of the ad hoc USPS Environmental Committee**

P/R/C Jean L. Hamilton, SN, chairman of the ad hoc USPS Environmental Committee, reported that the *USPS Boating Environmental Best Practices* brochure is ready and will be available at www.usps.org/national/envcom. She reported that information on the campaign to “Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers” is also available on the committee’s website.

P/R/C Hamilton reported that the Unsplash Your Trash Campaign is ready, and the committee is researching funding options. P/R/C Hamilton stated that it is critical to monitor and report district and squadron environmental activities to qualify for grant funding. She said that
districts and squadrons will receive an e-mail from the committee requesting information about environmental activities and encouraged recipients to respond.

Stf/C Robert A. Green, N, and Ted Rankine presented excerpts from the National Safe Boating Test II. The test will be aired during 2006 National Safe Boating Week. Copies will be sent to all districts and squadrons.

USPS Chaplain Father Louis M. Reitz, AP, delivered the benediction; the colors were retired by local Sea Scouts; and C/C Johnson adjourned the meeting at 1500.

V/C Robert A. Baldrige, SN
National Secretary
Action Items
Governing Board Meeting
10 Sept. 2005

APPROVED

1. A motion to amend USPS Bylaws, Section 5.7.5, to increase the size of the Planning Committee from nine to 11. (2005-GB-15)

2. A motion to change the name of Roanoke Valley Power Squadron to Smith Mountain Lake Sail and Power Squadron. (2005-GB-16)

3. A motion to confirm the 4 June 2005 ratification of Operating Committee actions reflected in the minutes of its 1 to 4 June 2005 meetings. (2005-GB-17)

4. A motion to elect general members of the Governing Board. (2005-GB-18)

5. A motion to increase dues for active members by $1.80, for additional active members by $.90 and for adult family members by $.45, effective in spring 2006 (for the 2007 dues year.) (2005-GB-19)

6. A motion to approve the 2006 budget. (2005-GB-20)

7. A motion to approve a District 10 resolution to list all policy statements in a conspicuous place. (2005-GB-21)

8. A motion to refer the District 12 resolution concerning uniforms back to the Flag and Etiquette Committee to be reported on at the 2006 Annual Meeting. (2005-GB-22)


10. A motion to hold the 2008 Governing Board Meeting at the Detroit Marriott Renaissance Center, from 3 to 8 Sept. 2008, at a room rate of $126 per night. (2005-GB-24)

12. A motion to refer the districts 4 and 5 resolutions on teaching and selling elective courses back to the Operating Committee for recommendation, to be reported on at the 2006 Annual Meeting. (2005-GB-26)

13. A motion to withdraw the District 5 resolution concerning family merit marks counting toward earning senior member status. (2005-GB-27)


DEFEATED
1. A resolution from District 5 to include the district commander in the notification process when forming provisional squadrons. (2005-GB-2)

2. A resolution from District 7 to allow alternates for general members of the Governing Board. (2005-GB-3)