Minutes of the Governing Board Meeting  
Held on 6 Sept. 2008  
At the Marriott Detroit Renaissance Center

Chief Commander Creighton C. Maynard Jr., SN, convened the meeting at 0900.

USPS Chaplain Louis M. Reitz, AP, delivered the invocation, which was followed by the pledge of allegiance led by N/F/Lt Frank E. Dougherty, AP, and the singing of the national anthem.

Introduction of Past Chief Commanders

P/C/C Ernie Marshburn, SN, introduced the other past chief commanders who were present in order of their terms:

P/C/C Richard W. Miner, SN, 1986-1987 (Birmingham/9)  
P/C/C L.M. Barnes III, SN, 1996-1997 (Rocky Mount/27)  
P/C/C Theodore H. Smith, SN, 2002-2003 (Grosse Pointe/9)  


R/C Bill Husted, SN, introduced honored guests:

- Ken Forster, senior cartographer, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Ocean Service, Office of Coast Survey  
- Doug Harpine, NOAA, Office of Coast Survey
C/C Maynard called on William S. Griswold, who was joined by P/C/C Theodore H. Smith, SN, to award the United Safe Boating Institute Silver Schooner Award to P/C/C Richard W. Miner, SN, past president, USBI.

C/C Maynard and Ronnie Babin, OceanGrafix, signed a memorandum of understanding.

C/C Maynard and Tom Griffin, National Youth Marine Alliance, signed a memorandum.
of understanding. C/C Maynard announced that Tom Griffin had joined USPS and administered
the new-member pledge to him.

The national secretary declared a quorum present.

The chief commander announced an attendance of 450.

Report of the Committee on Rules

R/C Allan W. Lakin, SN, Committee on Rules chairman, announced that P/C Benjamin
H. Sooy III, AP, would serve as parliamentarian for the 2008 Governing Board Meeting. He
explained the voting rules for this meeting.

R/C Lakin reported that the Committee on Rules approved an application for a squadron
charter from The Valley Provisional Sail & Power Squadron on 18 July 2008. The new
squadron has approximately 75 active and family members and is based in the northern suburbs
of Los Angeles. They have asked that the charter presentation be deferred until the 2009 Annual
Meeting in Anaheim, Calif., so more members may participate in the ceremony. R/C Lakin
reported that the Committee on Rules recommended assigning The Valley Sail & Power
Squadron to District 13, and the Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (2008-GB-1)

R/C Lakin reported that the committee approved amendments to the bylaws of 18
squadrons and is working with 17 additional squadrons. The committee completed revisions to
the Model Bylaws for Squadrons and the Rules Tool, which are available at

Approval of the Minutes

C/C Maynard asked for questions or comments regarding the minutes of the Operating
Committee meeting held on 20-23 Feb. 2008. The chief entertained a motion to ratify the
actions of the Operating Committee reflected in the minutes of its meeting held 20- 3 Feb. 2008.
The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (2008-GB-2)
Report of the Committee on Nominations

R/C L.D. Brown, SN, reported that in accordance with the USPS Bylaws, Section 5.6.1, the Committee on Nominations recommended the election of the below-listed general members of the Governing Board.

Robert D. Barber, JN Sarasota/22
John A. Belkengren, AP Key West Sail &/8
Robyn D. M. Levene, AP Kalamazoo Sail &/9
Eric Pearson, SN Lake Murray/26
John J. Sanfilippo, AP Peconic Bay/3
Gregory T. Scotten, SN Peace River Sail &/22
Roy P. Trowbridge, JN Green Bay Sail &/10
Joseph Anthony Vanhoff, AP Louisville Sail&/24
Natalie E. Witty, JN Skokie Valley/20
Gerald L. Zambroski, P Rochester/6

The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (2008-GB-3)

R/C Brown said that in accordance with USPS Bylaws 5.3.8, the Board of Directors can fill vacancies created between Governing Boards and the term will expire at the next Governing Board Meeting. Accordingly the Committee on Nominations recommended the following for election:

Staff commander of the National Meetings Committee
Stf/C Donald C. Clark, JN, Harris Chain Sail & Power Squadron, D/23

Staff commander of the Membership Committee
Stf/C Raymond Paul, AP, DuPage Sail & Power Squadron, D/20

Staff commander of the Inland & Coastal Navigation Committee
Stf/C Richard W. McGaughy, JN, Four Rivers Sail & Power Squadron, D/30

Staff commander of the Budget Committee
D/Lt/C Ronald Osburn, SN, Golden Lakes Sail &/26

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Staff commander of the Boat Handling Committee
D/Lt/C Robert R. Palmer, SN, Richmond Sail & Power Squadron, D/5

Staff commander of the Marine Environment Committee
P/C Ronald H. Kessel, SN, Cape Cod Sail & Power Squadron, D/14

The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (2008-GB-4)

Report of the National Law Officer

R/C Noel K. McKeown, SN, stated that during the past several national meetings he reminded districts and squadrons to file an annual 990 report with the Internal Revenue Service. He noted that failure to file the 990 form in excess of three years could result in a squadron losing its 501 (c)(3) status. He reported that instructions for filing the 990 postcard can be found on the Law Committee’s website at http://www.usps.org/national/lawcom/epostcard.html

R/C McKeown reported that LawCom registered several USPS trademarks at the request of the USPS Board of Directors. He urged members to use the appropriate trademarks in their district and squadron newsletters. He noted that using the appropriate trademarks would protect USPS’ rights to use them.

R/C McKeown reported significant changes in USPS insurance coverage effective 1 July 2008. He noted that USPS now has broader coverage for on-the-water activities and liability protection for squadrons. He reported that detailed information will be available on the LawCom website.

Report of the Planning Committee

R/C William M. Bellinger, SN, stated that the Planning Committee is committed to fulfilling the goals of the USPS Strategic Plan and the USPS mission and vision. He noted that one of the greatest challenges is to make membership relevant in this current economic downturn. Changes to the Strategic Plan are needed. He stated that the USPS Mission Statement, “To promote recreational boating skills and boating safety through education, hands-
on training, and civic activities while providing fellowship for members,” emphasizes boating
skills and hands-on training.

R/C Bellinger presented plaques to the following members for their participation in the
leadership development training program: P/Stf/C Robert Landeros, SN, Kalamazoo Sail &/9;
P/D/C Herb Shaw, JN, Beaverton Sail &/32; P/D/C Art Kimber, SN, Cape Cod Sail &/14; and
Glenn Daughtridge, AP, Rocky Mount/27.

C/C Maynard read the new USPS Vision Statement, which was approved by the Board of
Directors:

USPS will be a leading provider of recreational boating education on and off the
water. Boaters will seek USPS to increase their boating knowledge, skills and
enjoyment.

R/C Bellinger reported that more than 1,850 members participated in the Member
Satisfaction Survey. The top three districts were districts 28, 27 and 15, where at least 9 percent
of their members participated. These districts received six USPS cookbooks to use in fundraising
events in their districts.

He stated that the Planning Committee studied input from a wide variety of sources and
is working toward finding the best practices for USPS. The committee is studying possible
revisions to the Bowsprit Program and Operations Training.

R/C Bellinger reported that 55 members from 22 districts were trained in leadership skills
during five Leadership Development Workshops held throughout the country.

Report of the Marketing and Public Relations Committee

R/C Robert A. Green, N, announced that the online PRO-Log was launched and contains
virtually everything needed to produced successful squadron public relations and marketing
campaigns. He noted that PRO-Log is a work in progress and that additional chapters will be
added in the near future.
R/C Green called upon P/R/C Ken Henry, SN, committee awards coordinator, to present the 2008 Marketing and Publications Committee awards.

Charles F. Chapman Scrapbook Award winners
3rd place - Patuxent River/5
2nd place - Manatee Sail/22
1st place - Cincinnati Sail/24

Carl C. Mahnken Commander’s Cup Award winners
2nd place - Arecibo/33
1st place - Northern Neck Sail/5

Report of the National Treasurer

V/C Joseph R. Mesenburg, SN, reported that the operating revenue over operating expenses as of 31 July 2008 was $45,268.

V/C Mesenburg noted some of the major variances compared to previous years:

Revenue
a) Dues and Fees - $826,858 versus $853,700 for the same time period in 2007. He noted that although membership is down approximately 5 percent, the $1.80 dues increase approved each year for the last three years has contributed to positively to dues revenue.
b) Educational Sales - $206,486 versus $303,704 last year; and
c) Total Operating Revenue - $1,266,392 versus $1,261,908 in 2007, thanks to revenue that was generated outside of dues and fees, and educational sales.

Expenses
d) All departments and committees - $408,027 versus $376,300
e) Headquarters - $604,270 versus $468,061
f) Ensign Magazine - $199,272 versus $230,869 and
g) Total Operating Expenses - $1,221,124 versus $1,079,440; operating expenses have noticeably increased. This is due to higher fixed costs, unanticipated building maintenance and equipment costs, and marketing initiatives.
V/C Mesenburg stated that for a number of years the Finance Committee has pooled district and squadron funds and invested them in high-yielding jumbo certificates of deposit. He noted that squadrons and districts now can obtain higher rates and yields than what national is able to purchase through jumbo CDs. He reported that the Operating Committee voted to suspend the USPS policy on squadron and district monies that are managed by the Finance Committee. He said the national organization will no longer accept monies from squadrons and districts, and the termination of this program and the management of the present funds will officially end on 1 Jan. 2010.

V/C Mesenburg reported that to ensure that USPS has the best comprehensive insurance coverage, the insurance carrier was switched from St. Paul Travelers to the Chubb Insurance Group. He noted that this decision involved considerable research and study. He reported that districts and squadrons should request certificates of insurance from Chubb’s agent, Gowrie, Barden & Brett. Instructions will be posted on the USPS website under “Member Stuff.”

V/C Mesenburg concluded by stating that the Board of Directors approved the 2009 budget. The 2009 budget with comparison figures to the 2008 budget can be found on the USPS website at http://www.usps.org/national/treasurer/member/2009FinalBudget.pdf.

Report of the Finance Committee

R/C Michael J. Horowitz, JN, reported that as of 31 July 2008 the funds under the management of the Finance Committee totaled $3,358,247.48. These investments are divided into three major portfolios.

As of 31 July 2008, the USPS investment portfolio totaled $1,007,635.71, the Endowment Fund totaled $1,199,707.73, and the district and squadron funds totaled $1,150,904.10.

R/C Horowitz reported that USPS liquid assets are still below the desired level and have also been hurt by the economy. The Finance Committee will continue to look for appropriate investments, given the availability of funds.

R/C Horowitz stated that at the 2005 Fall Governing Board Meeting in Portland, Ore., Governing Board members approved a five-year nominal dues increase equal to the annual
Consumer Price Index. This was equal to an annual increase of $1.80 for active members, $0.90 for additional active members and $0.45 for adult family members. In August 2006 the Governing Board simplified the dues categories to two: Single and Family Unit. A single active member pays dues as set by the Governing Board for his or her status (regular, sustaining or life). A family unit pays dues equal to the single rate for the primary member plus 50 percent of the single active rate, regardless of the number of family members.

He noted that the motion below will set the dues rate for a regular active member to $37.20, the dues rate for family units headed by a regular active member to $55.80, and the dues rate for family units headed by a life member to $18.60. Accordingly, in keeping with USPS Bylaws section 5.8.2b, which requires that annual dues increases be presented at the Governing Board. R/C Horowitz proposed the following:

That the dues for a single regular active member total $37.20 (a $1.80 increase), effective in the spring of 2009 for the 2010 dues year.

The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (2008-GB-5)

Report of the National Secretary

V/C David L. Hinders, SN, reported that the Flag and Etiquette Committee reviews squadron burgees, district flags and 50- and 75-year recognitions. He stated that he approved a burgee that Flag and Etiquette Committee had recommended for South Bay Provisional/28; 50-year burgees for Norwich/1; Port St. Lucie/8, and Lake Hartwell/26; and a revised District 27 flag.

V/C Hinders stated that the Secretary’s Department motto is “Service is our Pledge.” He cited examples of how the departmental committees and the headquarters’ staff are working to live up to that motto.

The USPS website page had its annual face lift, which features the new USPS tagline, “Boating is fun…we’ll show you how.” Drop-down menus on the homepage have links to the Ship’s Store and the Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI) page.
The Secretary’s Department has worked with the Membership Committee to enhance the “How to Become a Member” page, where visitors can request to be contacted by a squadron or subscribe to the USPS Compass. V/C Hinders noted that the site is averaging two requests per day, and he encouraged squadrons to contact these prospective members.

The national secretary reminded squadrons that they can enter new members online by clicking in the “Members Stuff” menu on the homepage and then clicking on “New Member Processing.”

V/C Hinders reported that “USPS News” was used to debate the merits of the Clean Boating Act of 2008, which was ultimately signed into law. He reminded districts and squadrons to submit news of interest to USPS members and fellow boaters to ans@usps.org.

He noted a link on the USPS homepage to “Storm Central” where displaced members can post and retrieve information. He also encouraged members interested in participating at the national level to visit “Help Wanted” under “Member Stuff”.

R/C Jean Hamilton, SN, compiled the Detroit meetings CD-ROM, which contains documents, handouts, tools and presentations from the committee meetings held prior to the Governing Board Meeting. This is a valuable tool for members to take home to use or distribute. Members may order a copy from headquarters for $5 as long as inventory remains.

V/C Hinders reported that in August 2008, the 10th edition of USPS Compass was sent to more than 33,000 subscribers, compared with 21,000 for the first edition. Members and nonmembers can subscribe at the USPS Compass link on the homepage. USPS Boating Course and ABC students with e-mail addresses are automatically subscribed to the USPS Compass.

The national secretary reported that USPS Compass was introduced to plug the gap that resulted when the number of issues of The Ensign was reduced to cut expenses. He noted that the cost of publishing an issue of USPS Compass is less than $100 compared with more than $20,000 for an issue of The Ensign. He encouraged members to submit articles to ensign@hq.usps.org.
The USPS Ship’s Store is working hard to fill the store with new and exciting merchandise while also reducing inventory. He noted that items can be purchased online at http://www.shopusps.org.

The Operations Manual Committee updated the Operations Manual to reflect the governance changes that went into effect at the 2008 Annual Meeting in Dallas. In addition, the Membership Committee completely revised the Membership Manual, which is now included as Chapter 13 in the Operations Manual. The manual is available at http://www.usps.org/national/op/.

The Historian Committee is encouraging districts to participate in USPS Founder’s Day activities. The committee is interviewing districts and squadrons for ideas of how to celebrate USPS Founder’s Day. Ideas will be presented during the 2009 Expo in Anaheim, Calif.

The Information Technology Committee created the Information Center, which provides an online organizational directory. The committee reminded members to use the latest version of DB2000 to submit merit marks and change of watch information.

V/C Hinders reported that headquarters continues to support both traditional and headquarters anniversary billing collection of dues. Eighty-two percent of members are currently being invoiced through Headquarters Collection and Anniversary Billing (HQAB). He encouraged squadrons not participating in HQAB to do so. HQAB enables a member to renew using a credit card and simplifies the process for members and squadron treasurers. A demo of the HQAB reports and information can be found at http://www.usps.org/dues/reports.

The national secretary reported that Tom Kemp, manager of Headquarters Marketing and Development Services, has been busy providing marketing support to many USPS committees, districts and squadrons while helping to enhance USPS’ relationship with other boating organizations.

**Report of the National Administrative Officer**

V/C John T. Alter, SN, reported as of 31 July 2008 total membership was 41,792 versus 44,143 one year ago, a decrease of 2,351. He noted that in 2008, there were 7,347 nonrenewals year-to-date versus 8,326 in 2007, indicating that some of the retention strategies may be starting.
to work. He noted that new member acquisition is down slightly, most likely due to decreased student registrations and fewer boating classes offered to the public. He noted that membership will continue to be the top priority of the Administrative Department until the decline is reversed.

V/C Alter requested that, with concurrence of the Operating Committee, the Governing Board dissolve the Auxiliary Advisory Committee and transfer its associated duties outlined in Section 3.37 of the Operations Manual to the Squadron Activities Committee effective at the 2009 Annual Meeting. The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (2008-GB-6)

The Squadron Activities Committee reported that as of 31 July 2008 there were 487 USPS and 17 Canadian port captains. The number of Cruise and Rendezvous events registered was 503, which was nearly double 2007 registrations. The committee reported that there were 370 USPS and 93 Canadian amateur radio operators registered.

The Leadership Development Committee reported that it has been working with the Planning Committee to assume coordination and ongoing improvement of the Leadership Development Workshop. The committee is revising Module 4 of the Operations Training Program to explain functions of the USPS Board of Directors.

The Membership Committee reported that the committee produced “Tools for Squadrons” to assist in recruiting and retaining members. They committee also created a generic brochure, “What We Do,” which can be personalized by squadrons. A new “Welcome New Member” packet will be stocked as soon as the current supply is exhausted.

The Member Benefits Committee reported that the relationship with existing benefits providers is being strengthened to explore new opportunities and to identify and resolve actual or potential problems. The committee is reviewing several potential member benefits including discounts on boating products, cellular telephones, prescription drugs and others.

Report of the National Educational Officer

V/C Dick Kyle, SN, reported that the USPS University continues to expand, with more than a dozen seminars now available. He reported that Navigation ‘08 Beta was released and that Marine Electrical Systems is now available as the first of three new courses. Weather ‘08 will
be available in November and America’s Boating Course 3rd Edition will be available at the end of October. The first part of the Boat Operator Certification Program, Inland Navigator Certification, will be available in October.

The national educational officer noted that America’s Boating Course - 3rd Edition represents a well-thought-out approach to basic boating. Each student receives a 240-page full-color course book plus two CD-ROMs. One CD-ROM includes home-study animated and narrated courseware similar to the earlier ABC course, and the second CD-ROM provides digital charting software and sample charts. The first four chapters cover boating safety and seamanship, with the fifth chapter allowing instructors to extend the course from an 8-hour basic boating safety course to a 12-hour course with introductory navigation. The manual will be used for both classroom and Web-based instruction. He anticipated that manuals will be available for shipping to squadrons on 1 Nov. 2008. The online course will be updated by 31 Dec. 2008.

V/C Kyle reported that the new Navigation Course provides for the completion of celestial navigation and practical techniques with electronic navigation for the offshore environment. The new Marine Electrical Systems course covers a boat’s electrical equipment, design, installation and troubleshooting. The new Weather Course combines excellent graphics into a single manual and CD-ROM that teaches practical and solid weather background.

V/C Kyle discussed the new insurance program, effective 1 July 2008, which provides coverage for USPS instructors both in the classroom and on the water. The USPS insurance policy includes a borrowed boat program, which serves as the primary policy while the owner’s boat is being used for instruction.

V/C Kyle noted that the Inland Navigator Certification Program involves an on-the-water skill demonstration. The Advanced Powerboat Handing Seminar Series is designed as a classroom program, and plans are to include on-the-water training. This three-part seminar covers close-quarters maneuvering, how and why boats behave in tight spaces, open water, and how to handle a boat in open water.

The Partner in Command seminar replaces Skipper Saver. This seminar teaches boaters how to take over the helm in an emergency. The intent is to provide the bare essentials in a relatively short time period to boaters who lack more extensive training.
R/C Kyle reported that public boating course attendance declined slightly during the 2007-2008 education year in a continuing soft marine market. He noted that public boating class attendance has been steadily declining for the past seven years. He noted that USPS courses continue to be recognized as the best in the boating safety community.

R/C Kyle closed by encouraging members to support the Educational Fund by contributing $1 to the fund to help your squadron reach Honor Roll status.

Report of the National Executive Officer

V/C Frank A. Dvorak, SN, requested that in accordance with the USPS Operations Manual, Section 5.71 and USPS Bylaws 7.18, the Governing Board dissolve Tappan Zee/2, Painesville/11, Salt Lake City/13, Salt Creek/24, San Francisco/25, Oakland/25 and Willamette River/32 squadrons. The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (2008-GB-7)

The national executive officer called on P/D/C Brian Logan, SN, to present the 2008 Bowsprit awards. P/D/C Logan 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 active member retention. Six districts received the 2008 Bowsprit Award: 3, 15, 23, 26, 28 and 33.

The Cooperative Charting Committee reported that the number of Cooperative Charting submissions is down compared with one year ago, most likely due to high fuel prices. The project with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is on hold due to diverted government funding. The committee reported that Maptech has sold its paper chart business to Richardson’s Charts of New Bedford, Mass., and it is not clear what affect this will have on the Boating Guide to America website.


V/C Dvorak requested that Governing Board approve the dates for the 2014 Governing
The Recreational Boating Safety Committee requested that squadrons submit their reports to achieve 2008 honor roll status.

The Squadron Development Committee reported that the South Bay Provisional Squadron is moving toward receiving its squadron charter. The committee is investigating potential squadrons in northern New Mexico and in Mountain Home, Ark.

The Vessel Safety Committee reported that the USCG Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety loaned USPS 2,900 inflatable personal flotation devices to be worn by members teaching boating classes, inspecting vessels and working at boat shows. Shipping costs will be funded by a grant from the USPS Educational Fund. The PFDs were shipped to squadron commanders in early September 2008. The committee is also working with Orion Signals to sign a memorandum of understanding where members who perform vessel safety checks will earn points toward Orion Safety product purchases.

V/C Dvorak reported a balance in the Century Fund as of 31 August 2008 of $1,231,856, with $56,369 having been donated during the most recent dues cycle.

Report of the Past Chief Commander

P/C/C Ernest G. Marshburn, SN, reviewed the actions taken by the OCom during its meetings held 3-6 Sept. 2008.

1. A motion to ratify the following action by the Board of Directors at its 5 June 2008 meeting:

   “That the Operating Committee of the United States Power Squadrons adopt the following procedure for membership applications which do not specify a squadron:

   1. Applications for membership in USPS which do not specify a squadron will be accepted as unattached members after paying national dues.

2. The unattached member will be notified of squadrons within a 75-mile radius of the member’s ZIP code, provided with contact information, and provided with an application for transfer.

3. Additionally, the squadrons would be notified of a new unattached member in their area and invited to make contact.

4. When the unattached member finds a squadron which meets their needs they apply for transfer to the squadron.”

2. A motion that the Governing Board approve the dissolution of the Auxiliary Advisory Committee, and transfer its associated duties outlined in the *Operations Manual*, Section 3.37, to the Squadron Activities Committee effective at the 2009 Annual Meeting.

3. A motion that the Governing Board approve a second staff commander position for the Squadron Activities Committee, which will be filled by the Committee on Nominations at the 2009 Annual Meeting.

4. A motion that the USPS policy of squadron and district monies managed as pooled assets by the National Finance Committee, for the purpose of obtaining higher yields through the purchasing of jumbo certificates of deposit, be suspended. The national organization will no longer accept additional monies from squadrons and districts, and this investment management program will officially end 1 Jan. 2010.

5. A motion to recommend that the Governing Board assign The Valley Provisional Sail & Power Squadron to District 13.

6. A motion that the Governing Board approve a third staff commander for the Boat Handling Committee.

Governing Board members ADOPTED P/C/C Marshburn’s motion to ratify the action items of the 3-6 Sept. 2008 Operating Committee meetings. (2008-GB-10)
Report of the National Safe Boating Council

P/R/C Joyce F. Shaw, AP, USPS’ NSBC representative, was unable to attend the meeting due to the NASBLA Annual Meeting in Clearwater, Fla. P/R/C Shaw attended four NSBC meetings since the 2008 Annual Meeting in Dallas.

The National Safe Boating Council offers two annual contests and one grant. These awards recognize individual and organizational partners in the boating community that create innovative programs designed to improve boating education and raise awareness of recreational boating-related issues. All squadrons are eligible to apply for NSBC awards. The Boating Safety Youth Program Award, which is also sponsored by Boat U.S., recognizes organizations that successfully implement innovative youth boating education programs that target safety issues. The Miles River Sail & Power Squadron received the award in 2008. The MillerCoors Alcohol Awareness Impact Award recognizes a program that demonstrates an effective prevention and awareness strategy to address the misuse of alcohol and promotes activities that educate the community about the dangers of consuming alcohol while boating. These awards carry a cash prize of $2,500 and include an all-expense paid trip to the International Boating and Water Safety Summit. For additional details on NSBC grants visit the NSBC web site at www.safeboatingcouncil.org/awards.

The OMC “Take ‘em Boating” grant awards $5,000 for a program that promotes on-the-water activities and instruction for children.

Report from National Boating Federation

P/V/C Robert P. David, SN, USPS’ representative to the National Boating Federation, reported that NBF President Philip B. Arms passed away. He announced that past president Marlene Barrington will serve as interim president.

P/V/C David reported that NBF is focusing on water discharge permitting, Loran continuation and supporting state mandatory boating education legislative efforts. NBF also continues to work with other recreational boating organizations including the American Boating Congress, the Recreational Boating Coalition, and the American League of Anglers and Boaters in the process for re-authorization of the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund (Wallop-Breaux). NBF has also contacted the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway Association to offer assistance in
obtaining additional funding for critical maintenance dredging of the ICW and all U.S. waterways.

P/V/C David reported that NBF representatives attended the Department of Homeland Security’s Small Vessel Security Summits across the country. He stressed the importance of aggressively supporting America’s Waterway Watch Program.

**Report of the Chief Commander**

C/C Creighton C. Maynard, SN, reviewed the activities and focus of the Board of Directors since the 2008 Annual Meeting in Dallas:

1. Modernize USPS and the way it does business,
2. Develop more effective and successful methods to compete for new members
3. Develop and modernize core products,
4. Develop new services, and
5. Build better methods of communication among USPS, federal agencies, and other organizations such as the NBSAC, NASBLA, USCGA and CPS.

C/C Maynard reported that the Board of Directors has the responsibility and accountability for directing USPS, which will lead to more efficient and effective national meetings.

The Operating Committee, which is composed of departmental staff and committee chairs, continues to devote its time to departments and committees and implementing action plans necessary to ensure policy and project success.

The Governing Board continues to help set organizational direction and policy through Bylaws changes and approval of dues increases, without assuming responsibility for every Board of Directors action.

The Board of Directors approved a limited license to the Punta Gorda Boater’s Alliance Incorporated Association to use USPS intellectual property on related materials in its Captain’s Challenge Club Award.

The chief reminded squadrons that the Board of Directors has little or no control over obtaining or retaining members, noting that this is a responsibility of squadrons. He stated that the Board of Directors is available to assist in any way that it can.

C/C Maynard asked members to use the slogan, “Boating is fun … we’ll show you how,” and to consider whether their squadrons offer an enjoyable and fun environment.

He noted that USPS University continues to grow, offering a wide range of educational courses and seminars, and is in the process of offering courses and seminars online.

C/C Maynard encouraged squadrons to involve their members in squadron activities. He noted that members will remain if they are involved. He encouraged squadrons to visit the USPS website to find the necessary tools to involve members.

USPS Chaplain Rodney G. Landsman, AP, delivered the benediction, the colors were retired, and C/C Maynard adjourned the meeting at 1145.

V/C David L. Hinders, SN
National Secretary
1. A motion to assign The Valley Sail & Power Squadron to District 13. (2008-GB-1)

2. A motion to ratify the actions of the Operating Committee reflected in the minutes of its meeting held 20-23 Feb. 2008. (2008-GB-2)

3. A motion to elect general members of the Governing Board. (2008-GB-3)

4. A motion to elect staff commanders to fill vacancies and new positions. (2008-GB-4)

5. A motion to increase the dues rate for a regular active member to $37.20, the dues rate for family units headed by a regular active member to $55.80, and the dues rate for family units headed by a life member to $18.60. (2008-GB-5)

6. A motion that the Governing Board dissolve the Auxiliary Advisory Committee and transfer its associated duties outlined in Section 3.37 of the Operations Manual be transferred to the Squadron Activities Committee effective at the 2009 Annual Meeting. (2008-GB-6)


9. A motion to approve the dates for the 2014 Governing Board Meeting on 4-7 Sept. 2014 at the Detroit Renaissance Center, at a room rate of $145. (2008-GB-9)

10. A motion to ratify the actions of the 3-6 Sept. 2008 Operating Committee meetings. (2008-GB-10)