Minutes of the Governing Board Meeting
Held on 4 Sept. 2010
At the Hyatt Regency Bellevue, Wash.

Chief Commander Frank A. Dvorak, SN, convened the meeting at 0900.

USPS Chaplain Lois Nehmer delivered the invocation, which was followed by the pledge of allegiance led by N/F/Lt Robert D. Holub, SN, and the singing of the national anthem.

Introduction of Past Chief Commanders

P/C/C Creighton C. Maynard Jr., SN, introduced the other past chief commanders who were present in order of their terms:

- P/C/C Lance J. Jensen, SN, 2000-2001 (Bellevue/16)
- P/C/C Theodore H. Smith, SN, 2002-2003 (Grosse Pointe/9)
- P/C/C G. Leslie Johnson, SN, 2004-2005 (Diablo/25)
- P/C/C Ernie Marshburn, SN, 2006-2007 (Tar River/27)


R/C Richard E. Gercak, AP, introduced honored guests:
• USCG Capt. Mark Rizzo, United States Coast Guard, chief, Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety

• Jeff Hoedt, USCG, Boating Safety Division of the Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety

• John Malatak, USCG, Chief, Program Operations Branch

• Ken Forster, senior cartographer, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Ocean Service, Office of Coast Survey

• Duane Morrison, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

• Fred Messmann, deputy director, National Safe Boating Council

• Malcolm Blann, Chief Commander, Canadian Power & Sail Squadrons

• Peter Girling, national executive officer, CPS

• Keith Christopher, national events manager, Boy Scouts of America

• Jake Hill, director of sales and marketing, McGriff, Seibels & Williams

• Jim Park, McGriff, Seibels & Williams

• Randy White, president and CEO, SailAngle.com

• Justin McChesney-Wachs, director of marketing, SailAngle.com

C/C Dvorak announced an attendance of 416.

P/Stf/C Flo Smith, SN, announced the awards presented during a ceremony held on Friday, 3 Sept. 2010.
Marketing and Public Relations Awards

Charles F. Chapman Scrapbook Award
3rd place - Kent Narrows/5
2nd place - Sarasota/22
1st place - Grand Lake Sail/31

Commander’s Cup Award
3rd place - Colonial Sail/5
2nd place - Hampton Roads/5
1st place - Minnetonka/10

Roger Upton Video Award
Minnetonka/10

Radio Public Service Award
Colonial Sail/5

Report of the Committee on Rules

R/C William I. Neef, SN, Committee on Rules chairman, announced that P/D/C Benjamin Sooy, AP, would serve as parliamentarian for the 2010 Governing Board Meeting. He explained the voting rules for this meeting.

R/C Neef reported that since the 2010 Annual Meeting the Committee on Rules had reviewed bylaws from four districts and 28 squadrons.

R/C Neef presented the following amendments to the USPS Bylaws dated 6 Feb. 2010.

A. Housekeeping Amendments

A1. In order to clarify that merit marks can be earned by all classes of membership and that all merit marks mean the same regardless of membership class, amend Section 3.8.1 by deleting the word “family” before “merit marks.” After amendment, the section will read as follows:

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Section 3.8.1 Apprentice members shall be entitled to the same rights and benefits of membership in USPS as family members including the right to take advanced grade and elective courses, serve on appointed committees as provided in Section 4.5.1 and earn merit marks.

A2. In order to correct punctuation and grammatical errors in sections 5.12.4, 5.13.3, 5.14.3, 5.15.3, 5.16.8 and 5.17.5, insert commas, change “an” to “a” and place correctly as indicated. After amendment, the sections will read as follows:

5.12.4 Be the chair of the Board of Directors and, ex officio, a member of all departments and committees except the Nominating and Rules Committees; and

5.13.3 Be, ex officio, a member of all committees of the Executive Department; and

5.14.3 Be, ex officio, a member of all committees of the Educational Department; and

5.15.3 Be, ex officio, a member of all committees of the Administrative Department; and

5.16.8 Be, ex officio, a member of all committees of the Secretary’s Department; and

5.17.5 Be, ex officio, a member of all committees of the Treasurer’s Department;

A3. In order to better phrase Sections 5.17.1, 5.17.3, 5.17.7, and 12.11 change the word “money” or “monies” to the more correct term “funds.” After amendment, the section will read as follows:

5.17.1 Collect all funds due and owing and hold all funds and securities owned by USPS;

5.17.3 Keep and preserve an accurate record of all funds received and disbursed;
5.17.7 Take such steps as may be necessary to effect collection and protect the interests of USPS. Accordingly, the national treasurer may at any time necessary render bills directly to members for funds due.

Section 12.11 All dues, fees, or other funds due USPS from a squadron shall be forwarded as set forth by the National Treasurer by the treasurer of the squadron or other person charged with the collection thereof. Dues of unattached members shall be payable directly to the National Treasurer.

A4. In order that merit marks earned by family and apprentice members be equivalent to those earned by active members, remove all distinctions between them by amending Section 14.1 by deleting the phrase “(active member) or family merit mark (family or apprentice member),” by deleting the phrase “and family merit marks” after “Certification of merit marks” and by marking Section 14.1.8 as [Reserved]. After amendment, the section will read as follows:

Section 14.1 Any active, family or apprentice member of USPS who, during the calendar year, makes substantial contribution of personal effort which benefits or promotes the interests of USPS, may be granted a merit mark by the chief commander. Certification of merit marks shall be issued by the chief commander.

14.1.8 [Reserved]

A5. In order to properly reflect the organizational status of the Marketing and Public Relations Committee as a departmental committee as defined in Section 5.10, mark Section 5.8.3 as [Reserved]. After amendment, the section will read as follows:

5.8.3 [Reserved]

The Governing Board ADOPTED a motion to amend USPS Bylaws, A1 through A5. (2010-GB-1)

B. Amendment to Change Organizational Governance

B1. In order to transfer responsibility for the operations of USPS headquarters from the national
secretary to the board of directors, amend both Sections 5.3.7 (not shown) and 5.3.8 by changing the final period to a semicolon; insert a new Section 5.3.9; renumber Section 5.3.9 to 5.3.10; and mark Section 5.16.9 as [Reserved]. After amendment, the section will read as follows:

5.3.8 Make temporary appointments to fill . . . at which such appointments are made; and

5.3.9 Direct and oversee the operations of USPS headquarters.

5.3.10 Proceedings of the board of directors shall be recorded by the national secretary. The minutes of each board meeting . . .

5.16.9 [Reserved]

The Governing Board ADOPTED a motion to amend USPS Bylaws, B1. (2010-GB-2)

C. Amendments to Unify Membership Classes

In order to simplify the membership structure of USPS and make all members of USPS more equal in their rights and privileges, the following proposed amendments combine the Active and Family membership classes:

C1. Amend Section 3.1 by deleting the word “five” before classes and replacing it with “four” and by deleting the words “family members” entirely. After amendment, the section will read as follows:

Section 3.1 There shall be four classes of members, namely, active members, apprentice members, corporate members, and honorary members. Active members shall have all the privileges of membership in USPS while the other classes of members shall have limited privileges as noted below.

C2. Amend Section 3.4 by deleting the word “family.” After amendment, the section will read as follows:
Section 3.4  An application for active, associate or apprentice membership must be endorsed by one or more active members before being presented to an Executive Committee for final action. Admission to membership shall require a majority vote of Executive Committee members present and voting at a duly constituted meeting thereof.

C3. Amend Section 3.6 by deleting the words “and is at least 18 years of age” so that current under-age family members may become active members with limited privileges. See Section 3.7.1. After amendment, the section will read as follows:

Section 3.6  Any person who is able and willing to contribute time, energy and skills to the objectives of USPS or their squadron and has passed an examination approved by the board of directors may be admitted to active membership in USPS under such conditions as these bylaws and the Governing Board may prescribe.

C4. Amend Section 3.6.9 by replacing “An active member” with “Active and apprentice members” so that the subsection applies to all such members. After amendment, the section will read as follows:

3.6.9 Active and apprentice members shall be awarded advanced grade status after passing appropriate examinations as prescribed by the Educational Department.

C5. Amend Section 3.7 by deleting it in its entirety and replacing it with new wording. After amendment, the section will read as follows:

Section 3.7  Individuals who reside with an active member (considered a primary active member for billing purposes) may be admitted as active members in the same manner as any other such member. They shall have all the rights and privileges of their membership class except they shall not be entitled to receive separate copies of The Ensign or other publications and their dues shall be billed to the primary active member.
C6. Amend Section 3.7.1 by deleting the word “Family,” inserting the words “less than 18 years of age” and rephrasing the remainder to define the privileges and limitations of under-age members. After amendment, the section will read as follows:

3.7.1 Members less than 18 years of age shall be entered as active members, may enroll in courses and may receive merit marks. They shall also be entitled to wear the uniform, fly the ensign and attend any business meeting of USPS or any district or squadron, but may not serve in an elected position or vote at any business meeting.

C7. Amend Section 3.7.2 by deleting it in its entirety and by marking Section 3.7.2 as [Reserved]. After amendment, the section will read as follows:

3.7.2 [Reserved].

C8. Amend Section 3.7.3 by deleting it in its entirety and by marking Section 3.7.3 as [Reserved]. After amendment, the section will read as follows:

3.7.3 [Reserved].

C9. Amend Section 3.7.4 by deleting it in its entirety and by marking Section 3.7.4 as [Reserved]. After amendment, the section will read as follows:

3.7.4 [Reserved].

C10. Amend Section 3.7.5 by eliminating everything after “Upon becoming” and replace with “18 years of age, an apprentice member shall automatically become an active member unless the member elects to remain an apprentice member. At any time between the ages of 18 and 23, the apprentice member can elect to become an active member. Words are added to provide that, upon becoming 23 years of age, the apprentice member shall automatically become an active member. After amendment, the section will read as follows:

3.7.5 Upon becoming 18 years of age, an apprentice member shall automatically become an active member unless the member elects to remain an apprentice.
member. At any time between the ages of 18 and 23, the apprentice member can elect to become an active member. Upon becoming 23 years of age, the apprentice member shall automatically become an active member.

C11. Amend Section 3.7.6 by replacing “an active” with “a primary,” the first occurrence of “the family” with “any” and rephrasing the remainder to indicate that associated memberships shall continue. After amendment, the section will read as follows:

3.7.6. Upon the resignation, termination or death of a primary active member, any memberships that had been billed to that primary active member shall continue with one such member, 18 years of age or older, automatically becoming the new primary active member. If no such member exists, or the only qualifying member refuses the change, all remaining members 12 to 17 years of age will be offered the choice of becoming apprentice members.

C12. Amend Section 3.8.1 by replacing the first occurrence of “family” with “active” and remove the second occurrence of “family.” Add a new sentence “However, they may not serve in an elected position or vote at any business meeting of USPS or any district or squadron.” After amendment, the section will read as follows:

3.8.1 Apprentice members shall be entitled to the same rights and benefits of membership in USPS as active members including the right to take advanced grade and elective courses, serve on appointed committees as provided in Section 4.5.1, and earn merit marks. However, they may not serve in an elected position or vote at any business meeting of USPS or any district or squadron.

C13. Amend Section 3.8.2 by replacing the wording to provide for the continuation and conversion of membership type of apprentices between the ages of 18 and 23. After amendment, the section will read as follows:

3.8.2 On becoming 18 years of age, an apprentice member shall automatically become an active member unless electing to remain an apprentice member. At any time between the ages of 18 and 23, an apprentice member can irrevocably elect to become an active member. Apprentice membership shall automatically be
converted to active membership at the end of the dues year in which the apprentice becomes 23 years of age.

C14. Amend Section 3.12.3 by replacing “family” with “additional,” “membership” with “memberships” and “in connection therewith” with “dependent thereon.” After amendment, the section will read as follows:

3.12.3 If dues of any member are in arrears later than two weeks after the beginning of the member’s dues year, membership, including any additional memberships in connection therewith, will be terminated automatically and without further notice.

C15. Amend Section 4.5.1 by deleting “women’s certificate holders, or family or” and adding “or associate” after “apprentice.” After amendment, the section will read as follows:

4.5.1 All elected officers, all elected committee chairmen and elected committee members shall be active members in good standing, and all appointed officers shall be active members, apprentice or associate members at least 18 years of age and in good standing.

C16. Amend Section 7.14 by deleting after “Dues for” the word “family”. After amendment, the section will read as follows:

Section 7.14 Each member’s annual squadron dues and other fees, as determined by the squadron executive committee, shall be billed by USPS Headquarters and payable on the same date as the member’s annual dues. Bills for the subsequent year’s dues shall be mailed to members by USPS headquarters no later than 30 days before the end of the member’s current dues year. Dues for members and the dues category of “additional active member” shall be billed to the associated primary active member. Notwithstanding the above headquarters action, the squadron treasurer shall collect dues and other fees when due from new members, transferring members, reinstating members and associate members and remains responsible for settling district assessments with the district
C17. Amend Section 13.1 by removing the words “family member” and the word “of” after “Secretary.” After amendment, the section will read as follows:

**Section 13.1** A certificate of membership, designated active member or apprentice member as the case may be, shall be issued by the national secretary upon receipt from the squadron commander or secretary the name and address of each new member and written certification that the individual meets all the requirements for membership in USPS. Such certificate shall be endorsed by the chief commander, and the national secretary and by the commander and secretary of the squadron.

C18. Amend Section 13.5.6 by removing the words “or a family member” and “is entitled for.” After amendment, the section will read as follows:

**13.5.6** If and when the holder of a woman's certificate becomes an active member of USPS, examinations in advanced grades or elective courses passed while a woman's certificate holder shall be recognized and the membership record shall be so endorsed and the member shall be entitled to such grade or qualification as an active member having passed the same examination.

C19. Amend Section 14.1 by deleting “family,” “(active member) or family merit mark (family or apprentice member),” and “and family merit marks.” After amendment, the section will read as follows:

**Section 14.1** Any active or apprentice member of USPS who, during the calendar year, makes substantial contribution of personal effort which benefits or promotes the interests of USPS may be granted a merit mark by the chief commander. Certification of merit marks shall be issued by the Chief Commander.

The Governing Board ADOPTED a motion to amend *USPS Bylaws*, C1 through C19. (2010-GB-3)

**Approval of the Minutes**

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C/C Dvorak announced that, with no objections, the minutes of the 2010 Annual Meeting of the Governing Board held on 6 Feb. 2010 were approved as distributed.

**Report of the Committee on Nominations**

R/C Kenneth D. Link, SN, reported that in accordance with the *USPS Bylaws*, Article 11, Section 11.3 and 11.6, the Committee on Nominations recommended the election of the below-listed general members of the Governing Board.

For General Members of the Governing Board:

- Pat Brewer, P Perdido Bay/15
- J. Russell Downing, AP Portland/32
- Richard L. Remski, JN Dayton Sail/24
- David H. Osmolski, AP Charlotte/27

The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (2010-GB-4)

R/C Link reported that in accordance with the *USPS Bylaws*, Article 11, Section 11.3 and 11.6, the Committee on Nominations unanimously recommends the election of Lt Kathleen G. Lambert, AP, Charles River/12 as a general member of the Governing Board.

The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (2010-GB-5)

R/C Link stated that in accordance with the *USPS Bylaws*, Article 5, Section 5.2.6, 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 recommends the following be elected.

- D/Lt/C Louis R. Loth, AP, to fill the vacant position of staff commander on the Leadership Development Committee.

- D/Lt Anita F. Walker, JN, for the position of staff commander on the Leadership Development Committee.
Development Committee to fill the position created by the Board of Directors at its June 2010 meeting.

   P/C Wayne F. Partie, JN, for the position of staff commander on the Membership Committee.

   The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion.  (2010-GB-6)

   **Report of the National Law Officer**

   R/C Gregory E. Korstad, AP, reported that the Law Committee had been working with the Treasurer’s Department on proper management of trademarks and copyrights to ensure that intellectual property is current.

   R/C Korstad reported that the Law Committee has also been working with the Government and Partner Relations Committee on several matters. The Law Committee will assist the committee on managing USPS memorandums of understanding and on organizing all USPS contracts. The committee is also helping the Government and Partner Relations Committee develop its lobbying policy.

   The Law Committee has been working with the National Meetings Committee to develop contracts with various facilities to ensure that contract obligations are met and to minimize potential liabilities.

   R/C Korstad reported that the Law Committee has been working with members, squadrons and districts on insurance issues. LawCom has assisted in insurance issues related to on-the-water coverage and will assist in administering and managing claims, liabilities and limitations.

   **Report of the Planning Committee**

   R/C Jeff C. Hamilton, AP, reported that the Planning Committee is moving forward with new leadership and a new reporting structure.

   The Planning Committee has completed The Women in USPS project. Information was
captured about the contributions made by long-standing women members. This information will be used to recognize contributions that are representative of those made by women throughout the organization and to help tailor USPS marketing to prospective women members.

R/C Hamilton reported that the Planning Committee will continue its work with the National Meetings Committee and with the taskforce on national meetings to help identify ways to increase the value of attending a national meeting.

R/C Hamilton reported that recommendations have been submitted on how squadrons can simplify operations. The Planning Committee is looking at the role of districts, how they currently operate and how they could support squadrons. The committee is also defining the qualifications for outside directors on the USPS Board of Directors.

Report of the Finance Committee

R/C Thomas H. Ellis, JN, reported that as of 31 July 2010, investments under the management of the Finance Committee totaled $2,246,382.40. These dollars are broken up into two major portfolios.

The USPS investment portfolio was valued at $949,680.50. The total investment return for the nine months on an adjusted basis was a gain of $4,682.27, at a rate of return of approximately .05 percent. R/C Ellis noted that the allocation mix of these investments was approximately 53 percent equities and 47 percent fixed income.

R/C Ellis reported that the Endowment Fund was valued at $1,296,701.90. The total investment return for the nine months on an adjusted basis was a gain of $7,810, with a rate of return at approximately .05 percent. The allocation mix of these investments was 18 percent equities and 82 percent fixed income.

R/C Ellis reported that the Finance Committee recommend the following motion to increase dues:

A $2 dues increase for single active members, effective in the spring of 2011 (for the 2012 dues year).

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The motion will set the dues rate for a regular active member to $41, the dues rate for family units headed by a regular active member to $61.50, and the dues rate for family units headed by a life or sustaining member to $20.50.

The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion to approve a $2 dues increase for single active members effective June 2011 for the 2012 dues year. (2010-GB-7)

**Report of the National Treasurer**

V/C Richard M. Peoples, SN reported that as of 31 July 2010 operating expenses exceeded revenues by $29,376. He explained that revenues are down due to the loss of 1,058 members since July 2009. He also noted that educational sales were $109,937 less than one year ago.

V/C Peoples stated that departments, committees and headquarters had worked very hard to keep expenses to $47,545 less than one year ago. He noted that investment returns were down and that contributions to the Century Fund were down $2,500 compared to one year ago.

V/C Peoples reported that the Treasurer’s Manual is available online at [www.usps.org/national/om/pdfs/treman.pdf](http://www.usps.org/national/om/pdfs/treman.pdf). The national treasurer noted that information applicable to district and squadron treasurers and insurance can be found in the Treasurer’s Manual.

The national treasurer reported that a message was sent to all district commanders in August 2010 regarding districts and squadrons that are delinquent in filing their 990 information. Delinquent districts and squadrons have until 15 Oct. 2010 to file or risk losing their tax-exempt status. A list of delinquent districts and squadrons can be found at [www.irs.gov/charities/article/0,,id=225889,00.html](http://www.irs.gov/charities/article/0,,id=225889,00.html).

**Report of the National Secretary**

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V/C David L. Hinders, SN introduced Mary Catherine Berube, headquarters executive director. Mrs. Berube introduced the headquarters staff present:

  Lena Padro, manager, membership services  
  Tom Kemp, manager, headquarters marketing and development services  
  Yvonne Hill, editor, The Ensign

Mrs. Berube gave an overview of the operations at headquarters. She reported that the headquarters staff continues to provide resources that enable USPS to collect dues, sell educational materials, market USPS, create publications, and support America’s Boating Course.

The executive director reported that headquarters has been busy implementing new services. Members who have a valid e-mail address now receive their dues notices electronically. All online purchasers of America’s Boating Course receive six months’ free membership. Nonmembers are entered into a student database to allow them to take all USPS courses. Squadrons receive quarterly payments via ACH transfers for Cooperative Advertising funds.

Mrs. Berube reported that squadrons entered 775 new members online year-to-date. She noted that the number of members paying dues online continues to increase and that 8,994 members paid their 2011 dues so far this year.

Mrs. Berube reported that the Ensign magazine has recently been updated with new typefaces and a clean, modern design for enhanced readability. The magazine is now printed on paper certified by the Forest Stewardship Council using soy-based inks. The publications staff has switched to onscreen proofing and editing methods, which have reduced their paper and toner usage substantially — a win-win for the environment and the USPS pocketbook. She noted that the monthly emailed newsletter, USPS Compass, which was revamped in January 2010, has a large and growing readership.

V/C Hinders reported that the number of Cyber members had increased from 160 in Feb. 2010 to 824 as of 4 Sept. 2010. He said that there were 556 Cyber squadron members looking for a local squadron so that they can enjoy more of the benefits of USPS membership. He
encouraged squadrons to go to www.usps.org/php/DHinders/unattached/makeMatchx.php to view a list of Cyber members in their area.

V/C Hinders stated that while acquiring new members is important, retaining members is just as important. He said that membership renewal reminders are being sent electronically every month to members whose renewal date is approaching. The message contains a link where members can pay their dues online or print their invoice. If a member does not pay within two weeks, they will receive a mailed invoice. V/C Hinders noted that the membership renewal process has been simplified while reducing mailing costs.

The national secretary reported that the AS/400 system at headquarters, which is the backbone of the membership database system, was purchased in 1998. He noted that although the AS/400 was running well mechanically with little or no down time, the operating system was six releases out of date and that IBM ended support in April 2009. He reported to avoid having a system failure without support, the Board of Directors approved leasing an IBM iSeries system, which was installed in mid-August.

The Communications Committee reported that it had developed criteria for the website Distinctive Communicator Award; developed an interactive evaluation form, and established a group of 19 advisers to monitor and evaluate district and squadron websites.

The national secretary reported that the Flag and Etiquette Committee published the second edition of How to Fly Flags. Copies are now available through the USPS Ship’s Store.

V/C Hinders reported that in 2009 members were assigned Pins to access the USPS website. The intent is to convert from using certificate number and Zip code to logon, to using a certificate number and a PIN to provide a more secure system. He stated that following the 2010 Fall Governing Board, access to the USPS website will switch to a two-tier security system. Members will still be able to logon using their Zip code, but they will have minimal access to website data. Members logging on using their PIN will have access to the same data as before the switch. For instructions on converting to the secure logon, visit the ITCom website or www.usps.org/national/tools and select “Manage Your Security Information.”

V/C Hinders announced that the USPS 100th anniversary is rapidly approaching, and the
Historian’s Committee is encouraging districts and squadrons to complete their history reports.

V/C Hinders reported that the Flag and Etiquette Committee reviews squadron burgees, district flags and 50- and 75-year recognitions. He stated that he approved the following, which was recommended by the Flag and Etiquette Committee: a District 20 flag, a squadron burgee for Shreveport Sail/21, and 50-year burgees for Hamburg/6, Calumet Sail/20, Ocala/23, and Peralta/25.

**Report of the National Administrative Officer**

V/C Robert A. Baldridge, SN, reported that the Membership Committee developed the Very Important Member (VIM) pin. A member who recruits a new member will be presented a VIM pin by their squadron commander. When the new member renews, an enhancement to the pin will then be awarded. V/C Baldridge encouraged all members to recruit a new member.

The Membership Committee reported that 30 USPS members, including C/C Dvorak, volunteered as exhibitors and teachers at the 2010 National Scout Jamboree, where the Boy Scouts of America celebrated its 100th anniversary.

The Membership Committee is working on the rollout of both unified membership and ABC3 classroom trial membership. As of 1 June 2010, students who took America’s Boating Course online were given a six-month trial membership in the Cyber squadron. Starting on 1 Dec. 2010, the same option will be available to squadrons, so they may offer classroom America’s Boating Course students a six month trial membership in their squadron. V/C Baldridge also noted that on 1 Dec. 2010, the $25 new member entrance fee will be eliminated.

V/C Baldridge announced that the Member Involvement Retention Award is given by the Selden family, in memory of P/C/C William Selden IV, SN, who recognized the importance of membership growth, member involvement and retention at the squadron level.

**2010 Member Involvement Award winners**

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**District Award**

1st Place - District 5

**Squadron Awards**

3rd Place - Vero Beach/8  
2nd Place - Friday Harbor/16  
1st Place - North Olympic Sail/16

V/C Baldridge reported that the Member Benefits Committee in conjunction with Tom Kemp, manager, headquarters marketing and development services developed an array of member benefits, which was reviewed by LawCom and approved by the Board of Directors. V/C Baldridge stated that these benefits are a collection of products and services that have not previously been available to USPS members and will bring USPS benefits in line with many other organizations.

The Leadership Development Committee reported that thanks to a Century Fund grant, the Administrative Officer Training Course has been successful, with more than 120 members completing the course to date. The DAO/SAO and DXO/SXO courses will be offered during the 2011 Annual Meeting. Registration forms for all the courses are available on the Leadership Development Committee website at www.usps.org/national/ot.

The Squadron Activities Committee is introducing ways to use squadron activities to recruit and retain members.

V/C Baldridge concluded his report by saying that it’s time to turn things around. He said that it is time to recognize that what USPS does is important and that USPS needs to expand to meet the challenge. He noted that while there are some obstacles to overcome, there are many positives. He said that the tools are available and the educational programs are second to none. He noted that there are experts available in recruitment, retention, leadership, activities and member benefits.

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**Report of the National Educational Officer**

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V/C Robert J. Sweet, SN, reported that in Feb. 2010, all USPS courses were opened to the public. He said that Educational Department is beginning to see an influx of USPS University students. He said that it is easy for USPS University students to become members and encouraged squadrons to push educational courses in fall 2010.

V/C Sweet and C/C Dvorak presented an award to Rich Jepsen, U.S. Sailing. V/C Sweet explained that U.S. Sailing provided on-the-water training to USPS members and played an integral role in the USPS on-the-water training program.

V/C Sweet reported that major emphasis has been placed on training certifiers for the Boat Operator Certification Program. He said that more than 500 members have qualified to date. The number of members certified as Inland Navigators is increasing. The next certification level, Coastal Navigator, is now underway and the accompanying skills demonstration has been refined and beta tested.

The national educational officer reported receiving a grant from the Educational Fund to purchase a laser-based fire extinguisher training system. He noted that the system has been used by five districts and most recently at the 2010 National Scout Jamboree.

The national educational officer reported that the Small Boat Skills Grant is near completion. The grant included funding to produce and distribute a one-hour DVD on paddle craft, PWC, fishing boats, and runabouts. Copies were distributed to squadrons for use during boat shows, courses and other squadron activities.

V/C Sweet reported that the $200,000 USCG Practical On-the-Water Training Grant is underway. An eight-hour program of classroom and on-the-water training is being developed, which will include a DVD to complement the Advanced Powerboat Handling Seminar. He noted that several partners are involved including U.S. Sailing, BoatU.S., the National Safe Boating Council, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the U.S. Coast Guard. V/C Sweet said that this program will provide the core of the USPS on-the-water training program as well as the basis for cooperative activities with other organizations.

The national educational officer reported receiving a $120,000 USCG grant to purchase a second laser-based fire extinguisher training system. The grant includes funding for an exhibit.
booth, handout materials, and for attending events and training attendees in proper fire control.

V/C Sweet reported that USPS is beginning a pilot program with approximately 60 Brunswick Corporation boat dealers across the country. He said that the USPS Educational Department and headquarters marketing developed a Brunswick-exclusive program. The Educational Department has identified squadrons in close proximity to the dealers. Brunswick dealers will become USPS members, and squadrons will have access to dealer facilities including classroom space, docks, and the use of loaner boats.

V/C Sweet reported that USPS is considering partnering with BoatU.S. to offer selected seminars through BoatU.S. online facilities. BoatU.S. would promote and showcase selected USPS materials on its website.

V/C Sweet announced the winners of the 2010 Stimulus Award. The following individuals were selected by random drawing of all members who completed designated courses during the 2009-2010 Educational Year. Each winner will receive an award sponsored by the USPS Educational Fund.

**Seamanship** - Horizon Handheld VHF Radio HX751
Jason R. Ross, S, Minnetonka/10
Mark Harley, S, Akron/7
Gail Romero, S, Seattle Sail/16

**Piloting**- Garmin Color Handheld GPS
Elizabeth T. Le, P, Hoosier Sail/24
Gerry Stillings, P, Fort Lauderdale/8
Michael Gilland, AP, Central Florida Sail/23

**Advanced Piloting** - Rosepoint Coastal Explorer Navigation Software
D/Lt/C Gregory Kelso, AP, Land of Lincoln/20
Lt/C John Juzbasich, S, Main Line Sail/5
Lt/C Karen Rosa, AP, Waterbury/1

**Junior Navigation** - Standard Horizon Color Chartplotter
Lt Richard Gassner, JN, Utica Sail/6

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Weather - Weems & Plath Atlantis Brass Barometer
Suzanne Therrien, Beverly Sail/18
Richard McClellan, AP, Port Huron/9
Lt James F. Cavanaugh, P, Hilton Head Sail/26

Marine Electrical Systems - Marine Multimeter
John Ballas, JN, Cape Cod Sail/14
D/Lt/C David Hixsenbaugh, SN, Banana River Sail/23
Lt Henry Bufkin, AP, Lake Murray/26

Engine Maintenance - Marine Multimeter
Lt William Michael Turner, AP, New Orleans/15
Lt/C Karl Wagner, P, Norwalk/2
John Fitzgerald, JN, Northern Virginia Sail/5

Report of the National Executive Officer

V/C John T. Alter, SN, reported that more than 20,000 vessel safety checks had been performed through July 2010. The Safety Committee reported that many squadrons participated in the Ready, Set, Inflate event sponsored by the NSBC and the Canadian Safe Boating Council at 1100 on 20 May 2010.

The Safety Committee reported that squadrons are required by the USCG to report the status and location of the loaned life jackets. The VSC-5 inventory reporting form is online at http://www.usps.org/national/vsc/. Reports are due from all squadrons by 15 Nov. 2010. There are a few life jackets remaining, which can be ordered through district vessel safety chairmen.

V/C Alter reported that the Marketing and Public Relations Committee is applying to the U.S.P.S. Citizen Stamp Advisory Committee for a USPS 100th Anniversary Commemorative stamp in 2014.

The Cooperative Charting Committee reported that NOAA has accepted 241 reports year-
to-date and that 130 individuals and 22 squadrons have met Honor Roll requirements.

V/C Alter reported that 12 USPS members attended a meeting at NOAA Headquarters in Silver Spring, Md., from 29 - 30 July 2010. NOAA representatives presented information on the International Standards for Electronic Navigation Charts and the Electronic Chart Display and Information System. Members were also updated on the status of the Coast Pilot, Navigation Services division, and Tide and Current Information available online.

The Environmental Committee continues to communicate with squadrons and districts. The mission is to identify and prioritize needs and create local content for squadron and district use and to coordinate participation in nationwide projects such as NOAA’s Marine Debris Program.

The Government and Partner Relations Committee is currently working on publishing all USPS memorandums of understanding on the committee’s website. The committee is looking for legislative representatives in several states, which are listed at http://www.usps.org/national/govprcom/state_reps_f.htm.

The Squadron Development Committee reported that there are three active provisional squadrons including Dubuque/10, Nanticoke/5 and Muskogee/31.

The National Meetings Committee reported that the 2012 through 2015 Annual Meetings will be held at the Hyatt Regency, in Jacksonville, Fla. The 2011 and 2012 Governing Board meetings will be held in Greensboro, N.C. and Detroit, Mich., respectively. V/C Alter reported that an internal taskforce will make recommendations on governing board meetings beyond 2012.

V/C Alter reported that the following squadrons had dissolved, and he asked the Governing Board to approve their dissolution: Pennsway/5, St. Andrew Bay/15, Orange/21, Kentucky Lake/24, Quad City/30, and Tulsa/31. The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion. (2010-GB-8)

V/C Alter reported on the District 26 resolution that reads as follows:

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Resolved that Area Monitors, as defined by Section 16.13 of the Operations Manual, be eliminated and all functions performed by them be transferred to the district commander for the respective squadron. The district commander would review submitted recommendations and indicate to the squadron commanders those that are not sufficiently documented and forward to the chief commander both those that are recommended and those that are not.

V/C Alter stated that the BOD recommended that the Governing Board reject the District 26 resolution. The Governing Board DEFEATED the District 26 resolution that would allow district commanders to approve merit marks within their respective districts. (2010-GB-1)

**Report of the USPS Educational Fund**

P/V/C Spencer E. Anderson, SN, reported a balance in the USPS Educational Fund of more than $2.5 million as of 31 July 2010. He reported receiving contributions totaling $25,800 year-to-date.

P/V/C Anderson reported that all contributions go into the Educational Fund and that earned income is used to underwrite grants. He noted that a summary of financial data is posted on the fund’s website.

He noted that the Educational Fund’s website now contains meeting agendas and minutes. Information on the grant process, forms for applying for a grant, a list of recent grants, expense voucher forms to use for reimbursement for approved grant expenses, and the Honor Roll list are also available at [http://www.usps.org/national/edfund/main.htm](http://www.usps.org/national/edfund/main.htm).

P/V/C Anderson reported that a recent grant supported the development and beta sessions of on-the-water navigation training and skills demonstration for the second level of Coastal Navigator. Recent grants from the Educational Fund also include updating the USPS Internet presence for America’s Boating Course, purchasing a laser fire extinguisher training system, and the 2010 Stimulus Awards, which totaled $39,000.
Report of the Chief Commander

C/C Frank A. Dvorak, SN, encouraged members to donate to both the Educational Fund and the Century Fund.

C/C Dvorak reported actions of the Board of Directors at its 31 Aug. 2010 meeting:

1) Effective in 2010, merit mark certificates will be printed and mailed to first-time merit mark recipients and members without valid e-mail addresses. All other recipients will receive an electronic merit mark certificate via e-mail.

2) A motion directing the Committee on Rules to prepare amendments for BOD approval and subsequent to Governing Board approval that will simplify and clarify USPS Bylaws, Article 7 and Article 17.

3) A motion to approve the 2011 budget.

USPS Chaplain Louis Reitz delivered the benediction, and C/C Dvorak adjourned the meeting at 1125.

V/C David L. Hinders, SN
National Secretary
ADOPTED

1) A motion to amend *USPS Bylaws*, A1 through A5 - Housekeeping Amendments. (2010-GB-1)

2) A motion to amend *USPS Bylaws*, B1 - Amendment to organizational governance. (2010-GB-2)

3) A motion to amend *USPS Bylaws*, C1 through C19 - Amendment to unify membership classes. (2010-GB-3)

4) A motion to elect general members of the Governing Board. (2010-GB-4)

5) A motion to elect Lt Kathleen G. Lambert, AP, Charles River/12 as a general member of the Governing Board. (2010-GB-5)

6) A motion to elect D/Lt/C Louis R. Loth, AP, to fill the vacant position of staff commander on the Leadership Development Committee, D/Lt Anita F. Walker, JN, for the position of staff commander on the Leadership Development Committee to fill the position created by the Board of Directors, and P/C Wayne F. Partie, JN, for the position of staff commander on the Membership Committee. (2010-GB-6)

7) A motion to approve a $2 dues increase for single active members effective June 2011 for the 2012 dues year. (2010-GB-7)

8) A motion to dissolve Pennsway/5, St. Andrew Bay/15, Orange/21, Kentucky Lake/24, Quad City/30 and Tulsa/31. (2010-GB-8)

DEFEATED

1) The District 26 resolution that would allow district commanders to approve merit marks within their respective districts. (2010-GB-1)