



United States Power Squadrons®

Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the FriendsSM

CAN 15

Official Publication of District 15

Fall 2017

From the Governing Board Meeting, Dallas

D/C Barry DeArmond, AP

Bob Dylan proclaimed “*The times, they are a-changin’*” in his 1964 release of the song by that title. I think change best characterizes the mood at the 2017 Fall Governing Board meeting. Like it or not, change is coming.

That message was loud and clear beginning with C/C Ojeda’s opening remarks at the D/C – D/XO meeting on Thursday and culminating with the Governing Board’s approval of several recommendations following reports by the Committees on Rules, Finance, Nominations and Planning.

Chief Commander Ojeda was happy to announce that we have a very positive cash flow and thus we will have a Chief’s Representative at the Fall Conference. He asked that the Districts help by doing anything they can to subsidize the cost of the representative’s visit. The reimbursement from National often does not even cover the cost of airfare for his Representative to visit so anything the District can do to hold down the cost is appreciated. This includes complimentary rooms and/or meals for the Rep.

P/C/C Lance Jensen announced the Merit Mark system is now fixed and ready to accept recommendations for 2016-2017. **REMINDER – MERIT MARK RECOMMENDATIONS ARE DUE BY 15 November 2017.**

Perhaps the biggest change coming is the transition to America’s Boating Club. Yes, we are officially in transition. If you have accessed USPS.org lately you will notice a subtle but important change in the selections from the home page. The familiar links to the Ships Store and Member’s Log In are still there but a new link takes you to the site for America’s Boating Club. Check it out! I think you’ll be impressed with the look of this new addition. A National advertising campaign will start soon funded by a grant from the Education Fund and a \$2/year membership fee



increase. Information on how to best use the new marketing plan will be distributed to the Squadrons in October 2017.

In addition, the Marketing Committee has developed a matrix to evaluate feedback on the changes providing real time data on the effects of the changes. By the way, District 15 has a celebrity on our Bridge. When you access the new web page, click on the link to “Safety Matters”. Scroll down to the second picture and you will see none other than our D/15 Secretary D/Lt/C Maddalynn DeArmond, AP. This picture was taken at a Safe Boating Week event down in St. Croix in 20XX (I’m not at liberty to give the exact year) while she was Commander of the St. Croix Sail & Power Squadron.

Other changes include the Membership Services Committee formed at the 2016 Annual Meeting to assist headquarters as well as USPS squadrons and districts maintain accurate records and various other tasks and a new and expanded team on the National Meeting Committee. Their goal is to make National Meetings more fun and they would love any suggestions.

The most controversial subject addressed at this meeting was the Planning Committee’s report on the D/15 Resolution for the Creation of an Alternate
Dallas GB Cont’d on Page 2

**D/15 Fall Conference
27-29 October**

**Comfort Inn & Suites
Ft Walton Beach
See page 3 for complete details**

**Hosted by
Ft Walton Sail and Power Squadron**



CAN 15

Fall 2017 (nbr 17-2)

MASTHEAD
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
OF DISTRICT 15



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D/15 Web Page

<http://www.usps.org/localusps/d15/>

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Dallas GB cont'd

Squadron Classification. The Resolution was presented at the 2016 Governing Board and assigned to the Planning Committee for review and recommendations. Since then, P/D/C Don Ellis and I have been included in much of the communication between the committee and the Board of Directors and participated in two lengthy telephone meetings with Chairman R/C Mike Skelley. Although everyone from the National Bridge to the District Commanders and Executive Officers recognize the need for this change, we were disappointed to learn the Planning Committee felt it best to recommend a no vote on the resolution. The reasons given are lengthy. As an alternative to the Resolution, the Planning Committee

proposed a "Notwithstanding Declaration" they believe will satisfy the intent and spirit of the D/15 Resolution. Following two long and passionate discussions that involved all the District and Squadron leadership present, P/C/C Baldrige, V/C Cheney and R/C Skelley we conceded to the recommendations of the Planning Committee. In exchange for our support we were promised the matter will be assigned to the Rules Committee ASAP and a workable solution will be presented for approval at the Annual Meeting in February 2018. Given the options, we felt this was in the best interest of the United States Power Squadrons.

See you in Fort Walton,
Barry



Richard "Dick" Reddy passed away on Sunday, October 1, 2017 at his residence in Lufkin, TX. Dick was a Veteran who served in the United States Marine Corp. He joined USPS in March 1985, taught the Safe Boating course, was a Life Member and had attained the grade of Senior Navigator. He served in many positions in the United States Power Squadrons, from National to District 15 to Perdido Bay Power Squadron. Dick was the D/15 Historian for many years, and completed his 2016 district report shortly before resigning in September due to health

reasons. He will be missed and leaves a void in our membership.

Dick, and Iris, his wife of 55 years, were active in USPS Geodetic marker recoveries and also were avid golfers, participating in both with other members of D/15.

Our condolences to Iris, and the rest of the Reddy family.



DISTRICT 15 FALL CONFERENCE

27 - 29 October 2017

Comfort Inn & Suites

137 Miracle Strip Pkwy SW, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548

850-362-6700

www.choicehotels.com/comfortinn/fortwaltonbeach



The Fort Walton Sail & Power Squadron cordially invites you and your guest(s) to the District 15 Fall Conference to be conducted 27 - 29 October 2017. Please complete this reservation form and forward it to the Chairman to arrive no later than Friday October 13, 2017.

Name _____ Spouse/Guest _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Squadron _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Conference Event	Time	Cost	Count	Total
Friday Dinner & A Movie	1800 to 2200	\$5.00		\$
Saturday Morning Breakfast **	0700 to 1000	N/C		N/C
Saturday Lunch	1200 to 1400	\$12.00		\$
Saturday Dinner & Social	1800 to 2200	\$32.00		\$
Sunday Morning Bon Voyage**	0700 to 1000	N/C		N/C
GRAND TOTAL				\$
Breakfast is included with room reservation at the Comfort Inn				
All events are BYOB with Set-ups provided by FWSPS				

Room Reservations: contact the Comfort Inn via the information above. The room rate is **\$95.00** a night plus tax. Ask for the USPS District 15 rate. 10/14/17 is the cut-off date for the group rate.

Uniform of the Day: The uniform for the Conference is will be announced on the agenda; the uniform for other events is casual attire.

Cut-off date for activity reservations is 10/20/17

Conference attendees, please make checks payable to Fort Walton Sail & Power Squadron and mail to the Chairman:

Cdr. Karen Gercak, AP
214 Miracle Strip Pkwy SW Unit A105
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548
USPSSailorgirl@outlook.com

If you have questions or problems concerning the Conference, please call or email the chair.



Just a few words from the D/15 Secretary

D/Lt/C Maddalynn DeArmond, AP

Just a few words from your D/15 Secretary. I would like to express my sincere appreciation and thanks to the members of our District 15 who pitched in and helped with the hospitality suite in Dallas. Their assistance was generous and willing and without their help we could not have pulled it off. Cheryl Jarrell, so generous to bring her famous or should I say "infamous" Hooch which was a big hit. Darlene Ellis, who made her award winning Pralines, Judy Ross, and Carol (P.) Arcediano were the absolute best at making sandwiches. They all pitched in with decorations, along with keeping their thumb on me in our shopping expedition. A good time was had by all.



District 15 Calendar

Changes of Watch

- 3 Nov 2017 Fri Perdido Bay
- 4 Nov 2017 Sat Pensacola
- 6 Jan 2018 Sat MS Gulf Coast
- 13 Jan 2018 Sat New Orleans
- 20 Jan 2018 Sat Lake Ponchartrain
- 27 Jan 2018 Sat Ft Walton
- 2018 Baton Rouge
- 2018 Mobile

Conference Rotation Schedule

- Spring 2018 Mobile
- Fall 2018 New Orleans
- Spring 2019 Perdido Bay
- Fall 2019 Lake Pontchartrain
- Spring 2020 Mississippi Gulf Coast
- Fall 2020 Pensacola
- Spring 2021 Baton Rouge

Other Events

- 14-15 Oct 2017 Wooden Boat Festival Madisonville LA
- 27-29 Oct 2017 D/15 Fall Conference Ft Walton, FL
- 18-25 Feb 2018 Annual Meeting USPS Orlando Rosen
- 12-19 Aug 2018 Governing Board Minneapolis
- 17-23 Feb 2019 Annual Meeting USPS Orlando Rosen
- 1st Week Sept 2019 Governing Board Louisville
- 2020-2022 Annual Meeting Marriott Sawgrass
- Jacksonville, Florida

CALL TO CONFERENCE

In accordance with District 15 bylaws, Article 5, Section 5.5, this constitutes official notice to the membership of District 15 of call to meeting, containing the agenda and other pertinent details for the 2017 Fall Conference.



The conference meeting will convene at 0930, 28 October 2017 at Comfort Inn and Suites, Fort Walton Beach FL.

All members of D/15 are encouraged to attend the Conference and may request the privilege of the floor, in accordance with bylaws Article 5, Sec 5.8.

Each squadron commander is entitled to vote. Delegates shall be selected by each squadron on the basis of one delegate for each 25 active members in good standing, or major fraction thereof, as of the preceding 1 March, with a minimum of two delegates per squadron.

Voting members of the Conference are: District Commander, District Lieutenant Commanders, Chairmen of the General Committees, Squadron Commanders, Past District Commanders who are active members of District 15 squadrons, and the delegates.

Uniform at the Conference meeting for the District Bridge will be USPS uniform G. The uniform for other members and guests will be uniform G or other appropriate attire.

50 Years of Membership

District 15 is lucky enough to have two members who have been members of United States Power Squadrons for 50 years. Congratulations to both of them.

P/C Ray C. Morgan, SN, 31 MM
Ft Walton Sail & Power Squadron

P/D/C Kenneth G. Blackwell, SN, 37 MM
New Orleans Power Squadron



District 15 Fall Conference Agenda Saturday 28 October 2017



Hosted by Ft Walton Sail and Power Squadron
Comfort Inn and Suites 137 Miracle Strip Pkwy Ft Walton Beach, FL 32548
Uniform G - Black trousers, white short sleeve shirt, no tie

**0830 Commanders and Exec Officers Breakout
Educational Breakout**

D/Lt/C Joey Wheeler, AP
D/Lt/C Wil Hugli, SN

0930 Fall Conference Called to Order

Invocation
Pledge of Allegiance
USPS Pledge
Roll Call and Introductions
Necrology
Establishment of a Quorum
Change Order of Business
Clarification of Voting Delegates
2017 Spring Conference Minutes Approval
Host Squadron's Welcome
Chief Commander's Message

D/C Barry DeArmond, AP
D/Lt Ann Gniady, P
D/Lt/C Joey Wheeler, AP
D/Lt/C John Gniady, P
P/D/C Don Ellis, SN-CN
D/Lt Ann Gniady, P
D/Lt/C Maddalynn DeArmond, AP
D/C Barry DeArmond, AP
P/D/C Don Ellis, SN-CN
D/Lt/C Maddalynn DeArmond, AP
Cdr Karen Gercak, AP
TBA

BRIDGE OFFICERS REPORTS

Treasurer's Report
Secretary's Report
Administrative Officer's Report
Educational Officer's Report
Executive Officer's Report
Commander's Report

D/Lt/C Dan Ross, S
D/Lt/C Maddalynn DeArmond, AP
D/Lt/C John Gniady, P
D/Lt/C Wil Hugli, SN
D/Lt/C Joey Wheeler, AP
D/C Barry DeArmond, AP

GENERAL COMMITTEES

Nominating Committee Report
Rules Committee
Educational Fund Report
Conference Planning Committee

P/D/C Leonard Long, SN
P/C Ron Swope, SN-IN
P/D/C Luther O'Brien, SN
D/Lt/C John Gniady, P

Presentation of Awards
Old Business
Unfinished Business
New Business
Benediction

D/C Barry DeArmond, AP
D/C Barry DeArmond, AP
D/C Barry DeArmond, AP
D/C Barry DeArmond, AP
D/Lt Ann Gniady, P

Conference Adjourned

1230 Lunch

1400 Training - Boat Operator Certification & More!

1800 Dinner and Social



From the D/15 Educational Officer

Join us in Ft Walton Beach on Saturday, 28 October at 0830 for the Educational Breakout before the Fall D/15 Conference Meeting.

There will also be **Training - Boat Operator Certification and more at 1400.**

D/Lt/C Wil Hugli, SN-IN
wilhugli@cox.net



From the October USPS News Blast

USPS Courses and Seminars - The Educational Department invites all members to let us know if you see a typo or error in any of our course materials or have comments or feedback that can help us ensure the high quality of our course offerings. To share feedback, contact the rear commander for the course or use the "Contact Us" link on the Educational Department webpage. Jan Wright vjanwright1@comcast.com

Discover the Secrets of Ocean Currents

WHAT: United States Power Squadrons® Webinar, Oceanography: Ocean Currents & Computer Navigation

WHEN: Nov. 14, 2017, 8 p.m. EST/5 p.m. PST

COST: \$20

Our latest webinar, Ocean Currents & Computer Navigation, takes a look at how tidal and ocean currents affect navigation planning before a cruise and while underway.

After a brief history and an overview of current research, you'll learn how currents affect the movement of our oceans, including where to find and how to retrieve tidal current and open ocean current data.

Learn about navigation software that can retrieve and use Real-Time Ocean Forecast System (RTOFS) current data, featuring demonstrations of Open CPN, Time Zero APP and Navigator software.

You'll learn how to use navigation software before and during a cruise to evaluate what effect the current will have on your route. Your cost is only \$20, so don't miss out—sign up today!

<https://www.usps.org/cgi-bin-nat/eddept/800/getregformx.cgi?W-7234>

If you miss the live webinar, don't worry! We record the webinar for use by registered participants.

From the Executive Officer

D/Lt/C Joey Wheeler, AP

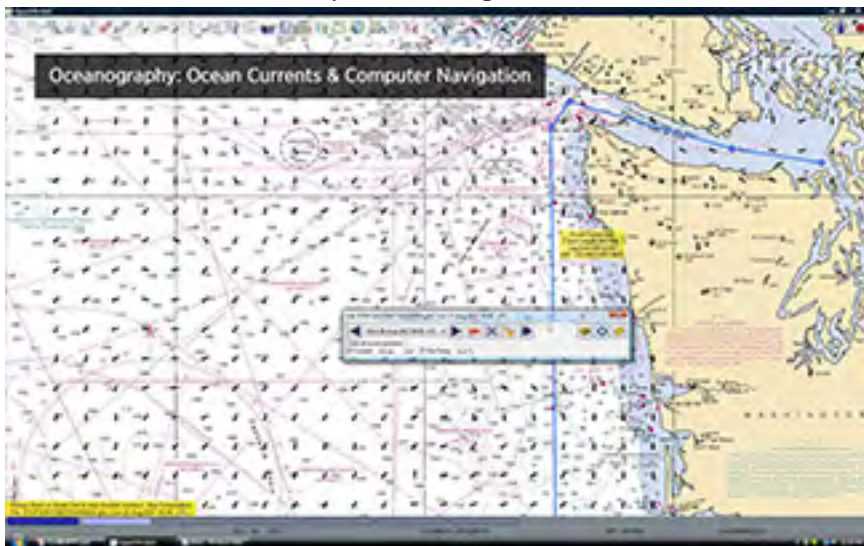
I had a great time with the rest of your District Bridge at the Dallas Governing Board. Your National Bridge as well as all the national committees have been working hard all year. The meetings were well planned and informative. There was much discussion and perspectives on a variety of issues; and from National, District and Squadron perspectives. Lots of discussions covering marketing, on the water training, Americas Boating Club, member benefits and many others.



It's that time of the year to recognize all the contributions of our members. Merit Mark recommendations are due in the next few weeks. I encourage each of you to forward a quick note to your Squadron Commander or merit mark chairman reminding them of your contributions this year. Squadron Commanders should forward their squadron and district activities to me.

I am looking forward to seeing each of you at the Fall Conference in Fort Walton this 27-29 October.

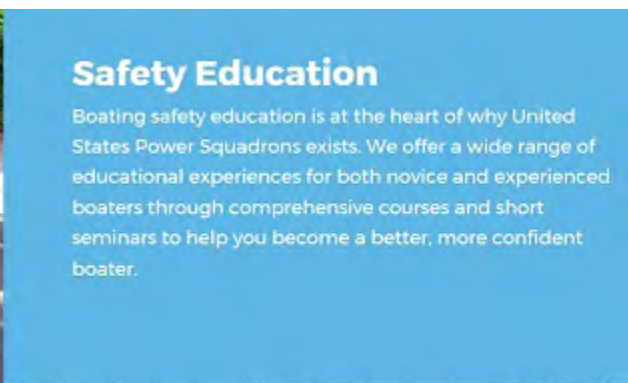
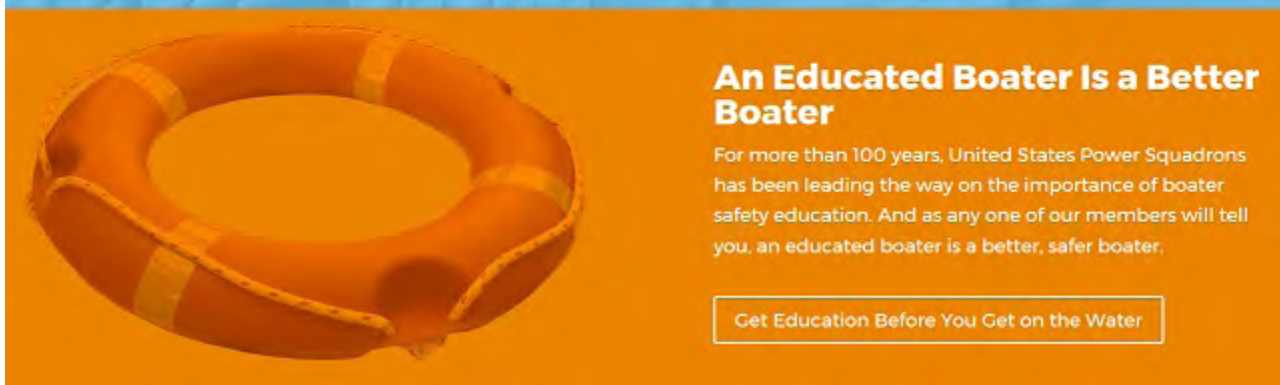
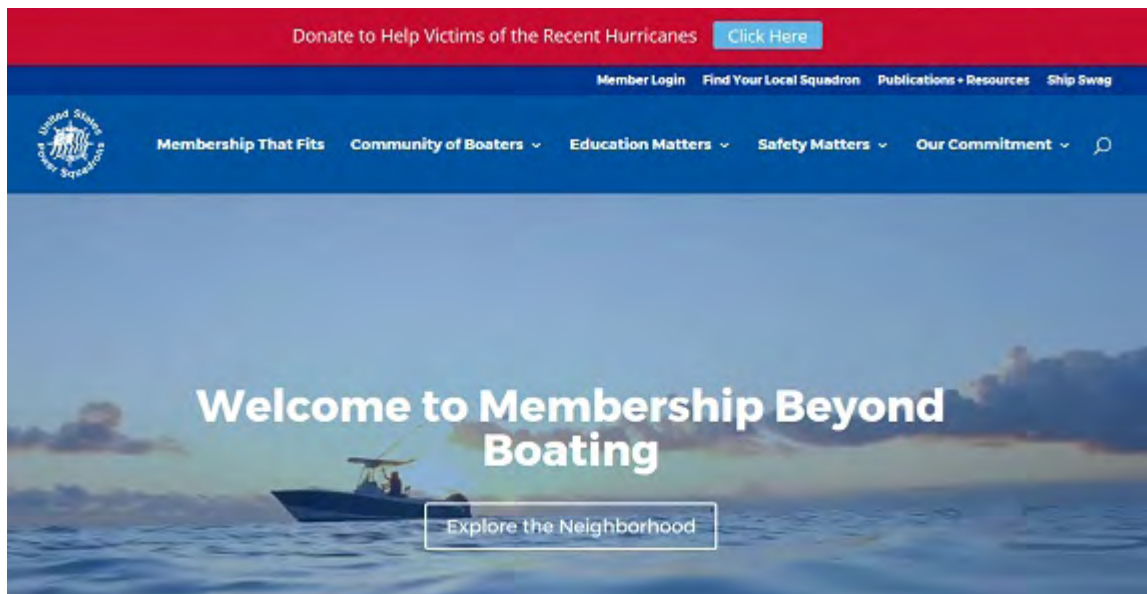
Oceanography: Ocean Currents & Computer Navigation





The New USPS Public Site: beyondboating.org

The members area of usps.org can be reached through beyondboating.org



Our D/15 Secretary D/Lt/C Maddalynn DeArmond, AP



Odds and Ends

News From USPS Dallas Governing Board

New Logo - The

USPS Board of Directors has approved a new logo for use, associated with America's Boating Club™. You are encouraged to use the new logo in your squadron and district materials and websites. Specific guidelines will be released sometime in October in the next Brand Standards Manual. The plan is to use both the current "Wheel and Ensign" along with the new ABC logo, then gradually change to just the new logo. The Ships' Store had many dual branded items on sale at the GB, and most sold out.



USPS has a Digital Media



Digital Media Library

(#USPSDML). This is the official showcase and repository for multiple formats of digital media focused on boating safety

and safe boating education. <http://uspsdml.org/>

Available subjects:

- Introducing USPS
- Announcing the DML
- Life Jackets
- Vessel Safety Checks
- Planning Ahead
- Vessel Inspection
- Preparing for Departure
- Departing
- Steering Basics
- Stopping and Holding Position
- Pivot Turn
- Getting on Plane
- Maneuvering on Plane
- Stopping a Boat on Plane
- Anchoring a Boat
- Man Overboard
- Preparing for Arrival
- Docking
- Mooring and Shoreline Landing
- Securing the Boat

Under *Introducing USPS*, you can find the new video introducing America's Boating Club:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vk2FkhHJxNo>

The **\$2.00 dues increase** approved at the GB is "targeted" to cover marketing of USPS. Both print and digital versions have been developed and will be distributed in marine/boating magazines and through social media. There will also be a series of regularly scheduled checks to see how the marketing is working.

Boating Safety

- One of the invited guests at the GB, was Capt Scott Johnson



of the **Coast Guard Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety**, who spoke on several issues related to accidents and deaths on the water. From 1960-2015, deaths declined by 82%. Unfortunately, in 2016, the number of deaths and accidents were up - 701 deaths, 4463 accidents.

Each year hundreds of lives are lost... thousands are injured... and millions of dollars of property damage occurs because of preventable recreational boating accidents on U.S. waterways. Too often pleasure outings turn tragic. You as a boat operator, passenger, or concerned individual can make a difference.

1. Drowning is the cause of 73% of the deaths; and often drinking is involved in those accidents. The risk is high and the consequences severe, know the dangers and avoid being a victim of BUI. **Alcohol** is involved in about a third of all recreational boating fatalities. Alcohol affects judgment, vision, balance and coordination. A boat operator is likely to become impaired more quickly than a driver, drink for drink. The penalties for BUI can include large fines, revocation of operator privileges and serious jail terms.

2. The U.S. Coast Guard estimates that **life jackets** could have saved the lives of over 80 percent of boating fatality victims. Accidents can, and do happen with terrifying speed on the water. There's rarely time to reach stowed life jackets.

As the boat operator you are responsible for the safety of your passengers. The U.S. Coast Guard challenges you and your passengers to wear your life jacket all the time while underway.

3. Lack of **boater education** - Errors account for 70 percent of boating accidents. Learn the rules and your responsibilities before you boat.

4. A typical three-blade propeller running at 3,200 rpm can inflict 160 impacts in one second. Most **propeller accidents** CAN be prevented! Wear your engine cutoff switch lanyard at all times. If the lanyard is removed from the switch, the engine will shut off.

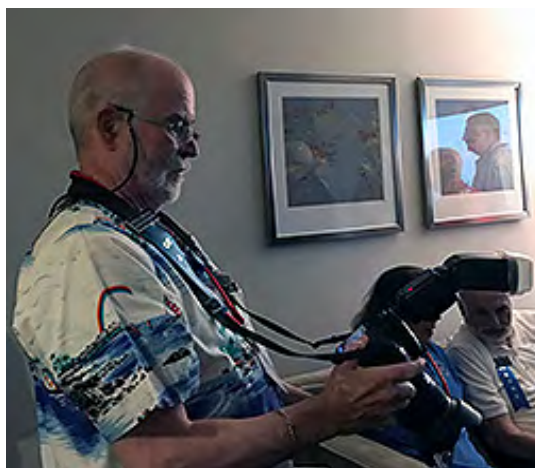
For more on recreational boating safety, go to:

<http://uscgboating.org/recreational-boaters/index.php?m=rb>

Socializing at the Governing Board in Dallas



Dan and Judy



USPS Photographer Steve Erickson. He supplied lots of pictures from Dallas. Want to see more, go to:

<https://www.usps.org/index.php/national-photographer>



Joey, Don, Bill, Dan, Barry



D/C Barry and the Ladies!

Mady and Barry threw a great party.



Robert with USCGAux Robert Shafer



Wow, Robert and Nancy "Cutting a Rug"!

Pictures from the USPS Governing Board Meeting in Dallas

2017 Board of Directors - USPS

- Robert Baldrige
Immediate Past Chief Commander
- Mary Paige Abbott
National Administrative Officer
- Cary Cheney
National Executive Officer
- Louie Ojeda
Chief Commander
- Craig Fraser
National Educational Officer
- Howard Yoas
National Secretary
- Lee Popham
National Treasurer

photo from Steve Erickson, USPS Photographer, webpage



D/15 Members at the Meeting -
D/C Barry DeArmond, AP; D/Lt/C Dan Ross, S;
D/Lt/C Joey Wheeler, AP.
Looks like P/D/C Bill, P/D/C Dick and Dot Ojeda
further down the row.



© two photos by Steve Erickson



P/C/C Robert Baldrige, SN

I was there,
too! - Cheryl
with
Stf/C Kristi
Watson
Anderson, P
of D/8



AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

Complete the Transition
New logo serves as primary identity
Official name used elsewhere as appropriate



District 15 Spring 2017 Conference



What a "Motley Crue"!

Hosted by
Baton Rouge Sail & Power Squadron



1st Place Ages 12-14 Youth Poster Contest
Brett - Baton Rouge, D/15



Cdr Taylor Baldrige, S of BRS&PS



DExO Barry DeArmond, AP;
D/C Don Ellis, SN-CN; V/C Lee Popham, JN



D/C Don Ellis, SN-CN

More Pictures from District 15 Spring 2017 Conference



D/C Don and V/C Lee presenting Life Membership to DEO Wil Hugli, SN-IN and R/C Harry Hebb, SN-CN



V/C Lee installing D/C Barry



100% Contribution to Educational Fund



The 2017 D/15 Bridge
Don't worry they'll get those flags right eventually!



P/D/C Don and D/C Barry