



America's Boating Club®
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CAN 15

Official Publication of District 15

Fall 2021

Fall Conference, In Person or Virtually

D/C Karen Gercak, AP



Fellow members,

As many of you may be aware, National has created a plan to “regionalize” USPS. The main topic for the Saturday meeting will be this subject. This will be a big change for our future and is important for everyone to understand what it is and what it means to us.

As we will have only a few in-person attendees, we will add a virtual component to the meeting so that those of you who are not attending, will be part of the discussion.

Please join the ZOOM meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone

Meeting ID: 389 972 9558

Passcode: 572746

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3899729558?pwd=Znh6djhqOFUyTlVDRzZDRSTV1OHdjQT09>

One tap mobile: +13126266799 3899729558# *572746# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location:

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3899729558?pwd=Znh6djhqOFUyTlVDRzZDRSTV1OHdjQT09>

Attached is the agenda for the meeting including the information for virtual attendance. Please plan to participate in this important discussion

Hope to see you either in person or virtually on October 30th.

Karen Gercak, AP

America's Boating Club

United States Power Squadrons

Commander, District 15

Commander, Fort Walton Sail & Power Squadron

**D/15 Fall Conference
 to be held
 29-30-31 October 2021
 Hampton Inn & Suites
 301 Hollywood Blvd
 in Mary Esther, FL.**



CAN 15
 Fall 2021 (nbr 21-2)
MASTHEAD
 OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
 OF DISTRICT 15

CAN 15



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D/15 Web Page
<http://www.usps.org/localusps/d15/>

District 15 2021 Fall Conference
Saturday, 30 October 2021
9:00 AM
Hampton Inn
Mary Esther, FL
Uniform Of the Day – USPS Casual

AGENDA

FALL CONFERENCE CALL TO ORDER

- Invocation
- Establishment of a Quorum – Roll Call & Necrology
- Clarification of Voting Delegates
- Change Order of Business
- Approval of Previous Conference Minutes
- Chief Commander’s Message
- Officer Reports
- Committee on Nominations Report
- Presentation and Discussion
 on the Regionalization of USPS**
- Any Other Business
- Benediction and Adjournment of Conference

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America's Boating Channel Receives Go Global Awards 2021 Top Placer Award

International Trade Council Recognizes Video Service for Further Education

Raleigh, NC, 18 October 2021 –The International Trade Council (ITC) announces that America's Boating Channel™ is a Top Placer for Further Education in the 2021 Go Global Awards.

During the past twelve months, nearly forty percent of the more than eleven thousand hours of viewing of America's Boating Channel's™ boating safety and boater education videos has come from international sources with Canada, India, United Kingdom, Australia, and Philippines contributing the most viewership outside the United States.

In addition to presenting its videos worldwide to boaters through AmericasBoatingChannel.com and America's Boating Channel on YouTube, the service also distributes them throughout the Caribbean Islands as public service announcements (PSAs) carried on cable television channels by Caribbean Broadcast Network (CBN-TV).

America's Boating Channel videos are enjoying higher viewership levels at home as Americans have increasingly turned to boating as a recreational outlet during the coronavirus pandemic. Screening boater education videos is an excellent way for boaters to prepare for safer experiences on the water.

America's Boating Channel's fifth season of videos is launching throughout the Fall 2021 boating season and includes "KNOWLEDGE VERSUS SKILLS," "WEAR AN ECOS," "CARBON MONOXIDE DANGERS," COLLISION AVOIDANCE," "BUI FATALITIES," "NEW LABEL BENEFITS," "FIRE EXTINGUISHER STANDARDS," "BASIC MARINE COMMUNICATIONS," and "COLD WEATHER BOATING."

About the Go Global Awards

Originally launched in 1989, the International Trade Council's (ITC) Go Global Awards celebrate organizations that drive the global economy through their innovations, technologies, and strategies. The Awards bring together hundreds of senior executives from some of the world's most innovative manufacturers, exporters, technology firms, international service providers, venture capital firms, and financial institutions. The program aims to build a community of senior executives from across the globe to support one another, share ideas, create partnerships,

and build on their existing knowledge and connections.

GoGlobalAwards.org

TradeCouncil.org

About America's Boating Channel

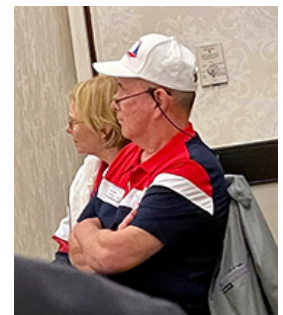
America's Boating Channel™ is produced by United States Power Squadrons® (USPS) under a grant from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund administered by the U.S. Coast Guard. America's Boating Channel features professionally produced high-definition safe boating and boater education videos. As the premier boating organization dedicated to "Safe Boating through Education" since 1914, USPS is America's Boating Club® – For Boaters, By Boaters™.

<https://AmericasBoatingChannel.com>

Bob Canfield, Public Relations Officer
Bob.Canfield@AmericasBoatingChannel.com



Past members of New Orleans Power Squadron and D/15, now of Chattanooga, Sue and Jim Kuemmel were heavily involved in one of season 5's videos, CARBON MONOXIDE DANGERS. Sue was the Field Producer; Jim was a production assistant, budding actor, and he did his own stunts! Great seeing them again at the Raleigh GB.



2021 Distinctive Communicator Award

Attention D/15 Editors and Webmasters
Communications Committee
advisers will be submitting their
final recommendations for the 2021
Distinctive Communicator Awards on
Nov. 30. If you would like to review
the requirements to earn the DCA for
your newsletter or website, go to the Communications
Committee website and use the pull-down menus to
locate evaluation forms.



<https://www.usps.org/departments/15000/15800>

If you have any questions, contact the appropriate
adviser:

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kglambert@comcast.net
617-538-8769

Newsletters - D/Lt Billie Kearney, N
bjg1312@comcast.net
713-825-6621

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 2021
Fall Conference. *(Coming soon.)*



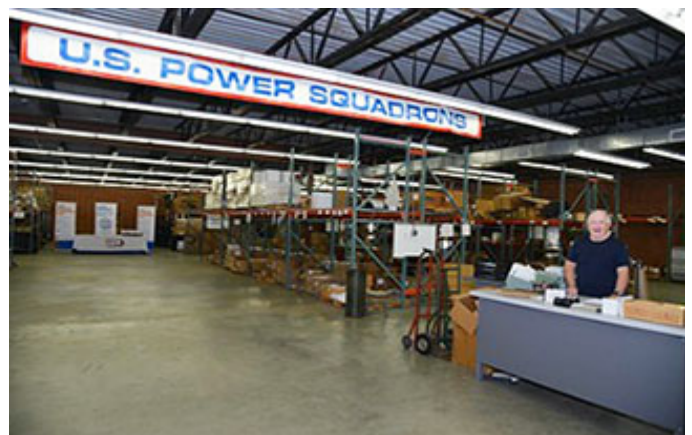
All members of D/15 are encouraged to attend the
Conference and may request the privilege of the floor, in
accordance with bylaws Article 5, Sec 5.8.

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.

2021 GB - Raleigh Field Trip to USPS HQ

Left, Picture of Headquarters
surrounded by squadron burgees;
Lower left, Walls covered with
past C/C pictures;
Below, USPS Warehouse.



photos by
Steve Erickson,
USPS National Photographer

From the D/15 Educational Officer

D/Lt/C Ron Swope, SN-IN

Rathkamp District 15 Chapman Nominee

Cdr. Scott Rathkamp, SN-IN, commander of Pensacola Sail and Power Squadron, is the 2021 District 15 nominee for the prestigious Charles F. Chapman Award for Excellence in Teaching. The Chapman Award is the highest honor our organization bestows on our instructors. Each winner's name is inscribed in a logbook at national headquarters. Scott's file has been submitted for national consideration. Three honorees are selected each year. Each national honoree receives a plaque, a special lamp-of-learning lapel pin and a four-year certified instructor wallet card. The winners' squadrons will receive a gift to further their educational program in the name of the winner. In the past this has consisted of such things as sextants and projectors.



Scott was previously a member of the Memphis squadron. As soon as he joined with Pensacola he assumed the role of Assistant Educational Officer and began challenging course exams when courses were not offered. He self-taught both Junior Navigation and Navigation, the only member I personally know who has done that. He then moved up to the role of SEO and spearheaded a program to allow members to complete all the requirements for Inland Navigator in less than one year.



Scott at the helm of his 1996 Sun Dancer 250 "Old Cranky".

Although the period covered by this nomination, 1 July 2018-30 June 2021 included the pandemic months where classroom teaching was shut down, he still managed a good record teaching courses. He taught part or all of Weather, Engine Maintenance, Electrical Systems, Piloting, Advanced Piloting, Junior Navigation and ABC3. He also taught the VHF/DSC, Basic WX & Forecasting, How to Use a Chart, Using GPS, and Marine Radar Seminars. He taught himself the Sail, Cruise Planning and Radar courses.

Scott has a wide variety of interests and his education and experience help make him an exceptional teacher. Here are a couple of excerpts from supporting

letters for his nomination: "Scott is a tireless collector and sharer of various resources - websites, smartphone apps, books, spreadsheet calculations – that can assist or automate many class activities. ... these resources are big time savers". "Scott always has great command of the course content, materials and knowledge. This allows him to field student questions quickly and accurately."

The three winners for 2021 will be announced at the National Meeting at Ponte Vedra, FL next February.

Courses to be Narrated

New courses coming out will have optional audio narration. Notice I said optional. The instructor will have the choice of using it or not using it. This can be a great option for a squadron who doesn't have a teacher for a particular course or a particular part of a course. The narration can be turned on and off as desired by the instructor.

(Editor's Note: It just so happens, that the USPS September News Blast had info on the Weather Course with narration, so I've included it below.)

The Online Alternative for the Weather Course

A new, updated version of Weather is now available online. The content is the same as the classroom course released last spring, complete with newly updated sections on modern forecasting tools. Many squadrons are now offering this updated course to their members. If your squadron does not have an available instructor or plans to offer Weather in person, members can still take this newly updated course online and get credit for it. The course is fully narrated, has a comprehensive student manual with practical examples, quizzes to check for understanding, and a final exam. Interested? Go to <https://usponline.lmscheckout.com/>

Remember, your squadron gets credit when a member passes any course, whether online or in person. Email: Eileen Rickard daverick93@gmail.com

Educational Info cont'd

Calling all Vessel Examiners

Record Credit for Class Scheduled

Occasionally a squadron will schedule a public boating class, go through all the work of publicizing it, recruiting instructors, and obtaining a facility and then ending up with no students. When this happens, the squadron can still get credit for scheduling the class. Go to the boating course details page for the class in question in HQ 800 and go to the bottom of the page where there is a row of buttons. In the middle is one titled "no pass". Click on it and you will get credit for the class even though you didn't teach any students. If you wait too long, the no pass button goes away and this option is no longer available. You should have at least 90 days after the scheduled date of the class.

The following VSC Workshop has been provided by the USCG and its review provides some new information for all Vessel Examiners.

Reason for this review is twofold, one, the long absence of most VEs last year and the addition of some new items that became law this year. One new item is the eVDSD Electronic Vessel Signalling Device.

This Workshop can be viewed individually or in a classroom environment. There will not be any test, however if conducted in a classroom, discussions are encouraged.

I would like to commend all of the Vessel Examiners that took the time out of their schedule to review the VSC Workshop. I hope that you found some new and interesting information in the exercise. If you have any comments on the continece of the workshop please feel free to contact me at:

R/C Allan B. Furtado,SN
abfurtado@comcast.net

The Workshop (PPT)

https://www.usps.org/images/Exec/Safety/vsc/2021_ABC_VE_Workshop_ver_3.45.pptx

PDF version

https://www.usps.org/images/Exec/Safety/vsc/2021_ABC_VE_Workshop_ver_3.45a.pdf



Boating Course Details 800 Form [How to Use](#)

Use this form and a button below to change/add/delete an Online Boating Course Record. This information is Emailed to BoatUS, State Boating Law Administrators (BLAs), and your DEO for distribution to internal and external promotional sources. You must be a member of the Squadron Educational Department ([See job holders](#)), Squadron Cdr, DEO, or Class contact to make changes. You are authorized

SQUADRON INFORMATION

Squadron: Power Squadron
Account:
District:

BOATING COURSE INFORMATION

Status: Not Reported Failed
Students: 37 Passed 0 Failed 0
[Enrollment Management Tools](#)

Mo / Day / Yr
Start Date: / / **Monday**

Registration Date: / /
(if different)
Reg. Close Date: / /
(if not Start)
Time: : AM PM
Registration Time: : AM PM
(if different)
Place:
Address:
City:
State: Zip:
Type of Course: 8hr 16hr Español plus OWT
Max Enroll: Not a Public Offering:
Record Number: CRSID:
Allow Online Registration: Price: \$ Non-Mbr Mbr
Record Last Updated: [Show Name](#)

CONTACT INFORMATION [Clear Cert](#) [Find Cert](#)

Name: Cert:
Telephone: - -
Email:
Email Status: Valid
Instructors: Optional

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Characters Left: No Schedule [Add a Schedule](#)

FULFILLS FLORIDA REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SAFE BOATER ID. Integrated with Outdoor Education Class. CR5 Students only.

EM Reschedule:

[Back](#) [Add](#) [Change](#) [No Pass](#) [Delete](#) [Clear](#) [List](#) [Request](#)

- List-- returns you to the list of courses/seminars/classes
- Request-- takes you to the Request for a list form
- Add-- should be used to add a new record with this information
- Change-- should be used to modify this record
- Delete-- should be used to delete this record
- Clear-- blanks out everything
- For more information consult the [800 System Help](#) documentation.

Odds and Ends - News From USPS

USPS National Meetings

The 2022 Annual Meeting will be held February 19-27, 2022 at Ponte Vedra, Florida. Except for the dates, no other details are available yet. But for those of you who think of such things, the meeting is smack in the middle of Mardi Gras 2022. The actual meeting is on Saturday, February 26, the same day as Endymion, or Iris. *(Sorry, names for Mobile or Baton Rouge parades?)*



It's Not Too Late to Join Our Cruise Group

We'd love to have more join us as we escape to the Caribbean after the 2022 Annual Meeting next February. The beautiful Holland America Rotterdam will depart from Fort Lauderdale and sail to Grand Turk, San Juan, St. Thomas, and Half Moon Cay from Feb. 27 through March 6, 2022. Take advantage of the "HAVE IT ALL" promotion, which includes free drinks, specialty dining, free shore excursion credit, and Wi-Fi. The cruise also includes exclusive group events and benefits and is a fundraiser for America's Boating Club, so the more who join, the more our club benefits. For additional details, please email me or call 727-403-0406. Email: Dawn Eckhart dawnstraveldeals@gmail.com

DB2000 Is Still With Us

Many members have asked about the future of DB2000. DB2000 is a 20-year-old software product that has reached the end of its development cycle. No further updates to the program are expected. However, DB2000 will be around for the next several months, and you will be able to download updates as usual until the end of life. Most DB2000 functions are being rolled into the Information Center on the USPS member website. The Information Center has extensive help files. At the 2021 Governing Board Meeting, the Information Technology Committee gave a presentation on the new Information Center additions. A link to the recorded presentation has been posted on the Information Center webpage. Some members have developed custom applications using DB2000 as the data source. Unfortunately, since most of those applications were developed to meet specific squadron or district needs and are not of general member use, the Information Center cannot support them. However, if you believe a feature would be of broad application to users, please submit those ideas to ITCOM for consideration as a future "feature." Email: H. Jay Stevens hjaystevens64@brighthouse.com

Coast Guard to Approve Level 100 Inherently Buoyant Lifejackets

The Coast Guard has issued a policy letter on obtaining Coast Guard approval on Level 100 lifejackets. This policy builds upon previous efforts the Coast Guard in cooperation with Transport Canada (TC) and members of the Personal Flotation Device (PFD) community to harmonize North American PFD standards. Level 100 lifejackets are intended for commercial vessels. However, they are acceptable for use on recreational vessels. They do provide face-up flotation with a level of support sufficient for open water use and turn most users face-up, even when the user is unconscious. Policy Letter 02-21 can be found here: <https://www.dco.uscg.mil/ENG/Policy/>

New Member Discount: MyMedic First-Aid Kits

Through our partnership with MyMedic, members can save 25% on all online store purchases (excluding sale and clearance items). MyMedic provides first-aid kits and supplies hand-picked by first responders and medical professionals. Get equipped with the tools that can save your life. MyMedic offers kits for whatever specific adventure you are going on. Whether you're scuba diving, fishing, boating, or hitting the open road on two wheels, you are sure to find a kit to suit your needs! Visit MyMedic.com and use promo code USPSABC to save 25%.

Email: James Milton jmilton040@gmail.com

Read more: <https://mymedic.com/>

How to Choose Anchor Line and Anchors

from COMPASS, Oct 2021 and Nov 2020

Knowing how to choose anchor line isn't difficult, but you do have a few things to consider.

For smaller recreational boats, the recommended anchor rope or rode is the correct length of nylon line shackled to a piece of chain at the anchor end. The chain adds weight, which helps secure the anchor especially in sandy or muddy anchorages.

Highly recommended for its strength and elasticity, nylon line prevents your boat from jerking violently as it rolls up and down in rolling waves. Both braided and three-strand nylon make excellent anchor line. Three-strand line has better elasticity and is lower in price, whereas braided nylon is more flexible. If you feed your anchor line through stowage, braided nylon is the better option.

What size anchor line do I need?

You need an 1/8-inch-diameter of anchor rode for every 9 feet of boat length. For example, if you have an 18-foot boat, you need a 1/4-inch-diameter (2/8) line. You'll need a 3/8-inch-diameter line for a 20-foot boat and 1/2-inch-diameter line for boats up to 36 feet.

How long should my anchor line be?

In many cases, it's better to have too much line instead of too little line. The last thing you want is to go to anchor and find out your rode is too short!

Also, don't forget to install a suitable swivel where the rode and the anchor chain meet the anchor shank.

Choosing an anchor for your boat

Anchoring success starts with choosing the right anchor. However, no one anchor is best; each type has its own strengths and weaknesses. When choosing an anchor for your boat, you need to consider several factors:

- boat size and weight
- boat type
- types of seabed you'll encounter
- anticipated wind and current

If you're anchoring in a new area, start by asking local marine supply stores and fellow boaters what type of anchor they recommend.

Types of anchors for your boat

Anchors almost always hold by digging into the bottom, and design strongly influences an anchor's burying ability.

Known by the names of their manufacturers, most modern anchors have outstanding holding power for their weight when used to anchor to a

particular type of bottom.

Anchors are typically designed so that a horizontal pull will cause it to dig itself firmly into the bottom, and an upward pull should dislodge it easily. Most recreational boats use one of two basic types: Danforth- and plow-type anchors.

Danforth-type anchors

Popular for small boats, and share several common characteristics: they are lightweight relative to their holding power; stow flat with twin movable flukes that engage the bottom quickly; tend to bury themselves in sand and mud when under heavy horizontal strain; offer limited penetration in grass, rocks or clay; may slide.



Plow-type anchors

A traditional design, the plow anchor has its fluke already deployed and ready to dig in.

Plow-type anchors share some basic characteristics: have a single, three-dimensional fluke, shaped like a plowshare that digs itself deeper under heavy horizontal strain; can be stowed on an anchor chock or roller on the bow; have excellent digging and holding capability under heavy horizontal strain; penetrate weeds, sand, and grass, and hook into rocks; have limited holding power in deep mud.

Plow-type anchors



Other useful anchors

Many offshore boaters also carry a storm anchor to deploy in extreme seas and weather. To handle different bottom types in multiple cruising areas, you may want to carry more than one type of anchor.

If you do, attach anchor lines to all your anchors so they'll be ready when you need them.

Pictures from Governing Board Meeting in Raleigh



Saturday
Morning
Meeting



New Life Member, Dot



*photos by
Steve Erickson,
USPS National
Photographer*



Harry and Jean



Oh, Man!



A few Past
Chiefs!
Gary, Robert,
Louie, Ernie,
Les