

United States Power Squadrons®

We are America's Boating Club®





Official Publication of District 15

Spring 2018

The Train of Change Has Left the Station!

D/C Barry DeArmond, AP

It is hard to believe my watch as District 15 Commander is almost over. What a fun and fast year it has been. Mady and I can't thank all of you enough for the hospitality you have shown us as we visited each squadron this past year. Those events are definitely the best part of the District Commanders job.



I also want to give a heartfelt thanks to all those who helped and supported me this last year. There were times when the best path forward was not all together clear but with sage advice from our leadership team I'm happy to say the outcome is good.

The headline for this year is CHANGE. As C/C Ojeda pointed out at the Annual Meeting "The train of change has left the station!" America's Boating Club is gaining traction. Everyone is using the new name/logo and reporting great acceptance from the public. I can tell you from personal experience that the "elevator speech" in Orlando was very smooth and well received when someone asked "what group do you belong to?" and we responded that we are America's Boating Club instead of USPS.

Not to be left behind, the Education Department also announced several changes that go hand in hand with America's Boating Club. The Advanced Grade Curriculum is getting new, more descriptive names. Some student manuals are now available as eBooks. The Digital Media Library is growing and is now America's Boating Channel. New hands-on training programs are in development and the list goes own.

Boat Live 365 has completed the test phase and is now available to all Squadrons. Why do you need Boat Live 365? The Boat Live 365 Playbook was developed by professional marketing experts collaborating with the U.S. Coast Guard and the United States Power Squadrons help plan, promote and execute your event. This is a super tool – Use it!

The most exciting change for those of us in District 15 was the resounding success of the Proposed National By-Laws Change 7.3.3. The addition to the National By-Laws reads "A squadron may apply to its District Commander and with the approval of the National Executive Officer for a waiver to conduct its affairs under such organization and operational structure as deemed appropriate by said District Commander. The District Commander will monitor said sauadron and its activities and report to the National Executive Officer. This waiver may be withdrawn at any time by the District Commander with the approval of the National Executive Officer." This addition allows a struggling squadron, under the direction of the District Commander, to alter its operational structure and hopefully prevent them from dissolving. District 15's Alternate Squadron Classification Resolution presented at the Governing Board Meeting in August 2016 was the catalyst for this much needed change. The Chairpersons of both the National Planning Committee and the National Rules Committee recognized the efforts of D/15 in making the change a reality. The details of the program will be

Change Cont'd on Page 2

D/15 Spring Conference 6-8 April 2018

Hampton Inn, Mobile-East Bay Daphne, AL See page 4 for complete details

Hosted by Mobile Sail and Power Squadron

P/C/C Robert Baldridge, SN to be C/C Rep

CAN 15 Spring 2018 (nbr 18-1)

MASTHEAD
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
OF DISTRICT 15



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Change cont'd

added to the Operations Manual in the very near future.

Many of the traditionalists in our organization have questioned the effects of all these changes. Many believe relaxed squadron activity requirements are creating social clubs. We are getting more informal in our dress code. Advanced Grade Curriculum courses are becoming seminars. More and more we are using the internet to reach potential members. Short You Tube videos now communicate much of the safe boating message we have always taught in the class room. And the list goes on! I can understand how some feel we are getting away from our original mission of self-education, civic service and fraternity.

Since 2003 we have seen our membership numbers decline significantly. Membership retention is down and new memberships are not covering the loss. *If we are to survive we must embrace change.* Our mission remains the same. We are committed to boating safety through education. Unfortunately, we hear about only the things that go wrong and cannot measure how many things go right because someone used the knowledge we may have imparted.

WHAT WE DO IS IMPORTANT! PLEASE KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Spring Conference in Mobile.

D/C Barry DeArmond, AP

D/15 Award Winning Newsletters and Webs for 2017

Newsletters

District 15 - *CAN 15*Baton Rouge – *THE WINDSCOOP*New Orleans – *TOPSIDE TALK*Pensacola – *Lazy Log*Perdido Bay - *Lost Bay Treasures*





Webs

District 15 Lake Pontchartrain Sail & Power Squadron New Orleans Power Squadron Pensacola Sail & Power Squadron

Thanks to the editors and webmasters for advancing communications for their squadrons.

Newsletter advisor for District 15 is: Billie Kearney, N *bjg1312@comcast.net* Web advisor for District 15 squadrons is: Kathleen Lambert, AP *kglambert@comcast.net*





D/15 Spring Conference 6 - 8 April 2018 Mobile Sail and Power Squadron



The Spring Conference 2018 will be held at the Hampton Inn, 29451 U.S. Hwy 98, Daphne, Alabama 36526. The hotel offers free breakfast every morning for all hotel guests along with free parking and free WIFI. Our block of rooms will be held until 12 March and, after that, it will be as available.

Friday evening will be at the Hampton with a barbecue dinner (BYOB we will furnish wine and setups.)

There will be a presentation that will describe the first steamship to cross the Atlantic.

Historian and author John Laurence Busch will attempt to re-calibrate your mind before showing why the proposition of making the first crossing of the Atlantic Ocean on a "steamship" was met with a mixture of skepticism and fear. He then will show how Captain Moses Rogers addressed that skepticism and fear, by

designing and building the first example of globalized high technology in history. The presentation is based upon his book, "STEAM COFFIN: Captain Moses Rogers and The Steamship Savannah Break the Barrier."

On Saturday, after the business meeting (local apparent noon), the Mobile Squadron will host the Loyal Association of the Navigators (all Ns and JNs welcome), after which there will be a box lunch at the Hampton. For Saturday evening, P/C Larry Lartigue has reserved the Gulf Quest National Maritime Museum. Come dressed for dinner and tour the museum beginning at 1600 (4pm) in a group or come any time after 1500 self guided. (The admission is included in your dinner reservation .) The dinner and Change of Watch will be hosted at the Maritime Museum with social hour beginning at 1830 (6:30pm) with a cash bar.

P/C/C Robert A. Baldridge, SN to be C/C Rep

Past Chief Commander Robert Baldridge of Baton Rouge, LA joined the Baton Rouge Squadron in 1976 as a college sophomore so his father would let him

take the boat out by himself. His first job was on the squadron phone committee. He went on to serve on the Executive Committee, Seamanship instructor, Chairman of Local Boards, Administrative Officer, Executive Officer, and squadron Commander. He continues to serve as Educational Officer and Membership Chairman.

In District 15, he has served as Computer Systems Committee Chairman, Rules Committee Chairman, Nominating Committee Chairman, Administrative Officer, Executive Officer, and Commander.

His first national job was as a member of the national Computer Systems Committee in the mid 80's. He went on to chair that committee and serve on the Marketing and Planning Committees. He was an aide to Chief Commanders Gordon, Kennedy, Jensen

and Maynard and has served as the Assistant National Secretary, Secretary, Administrative Officer, Executive Officer, and Chief Commander. He is a Life member with 35 Merit Marks.

A lifelong resident of Baton Rouge, Baldridge has

been employed by Wilson Warehouse Co. for 40 years and currently serves as its President. He is a Past President of the Southeastern Warehouse Association and is a member of the International Warehouse and Logistics Association.

Baldridge received his Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from Louisiana State University in 1979 and continued on to earn his MBA, also from LSU, in 1981.

Married in 1983, Robert and Nancy Baldridge have two boys, Taylor and Noah. The entire family enjoys boating aboard their SeaRay, MUCH ADO, mostly

in the rivers and lakes of Louisiana and along the Gulf Coast. P/C/C Baldridge's two sons, Taylor and Noah, now Senior Members of the Baton Rouge Squadron, joined hoping their father would let them take the boat out by themselves and are now avid power and sail boaters.









D/15 Spring Conference 6-8 April 2018 - Hampton Inn Mobile-East Bay 29451 US Hwy 98 Daphne, AL 36526 251-626-2220

The Mobile Sail and Power Squadron cordially invites you and your guest to the 2018 District 15 Spring

Conference.					
NameSpouse/Guest					
Street, City, State, Zip					
Squadron, Phone, Email					
CONFERENCE EVENT	TIME	EARLY BIRD BY 3/16	AFTER 3/16	COUNT	TOTAL COST
Friday Night Registration - Hampton Inn Dinner and Presentation: First Steamship in History Wine and set-ups provided	1600 1800-2100	\$ 7.00	\$ 9.00		
Saturday Lunch - Box Lunch - Hampton Inn dining area	1215-1400	\$12.00	\$14.00		
Saturday Afternoon GulfQuest Maritime Museum Tour	1600-1830	INCLUDED With dinner			N/C
Saturday Dinner & Change of Watch GulfQuest Maritime Museum (Cash Bar) Please choose one entrée from below:	1830-2200				
Chicken Bryan, wood-grilled topped with goat cheese, sun-dried tomatoes, basil & lemon butter sauce		\$45.00	\$47.00		
Prosciutto-Wrapped Pork Tenderloin Medallions, wood-grilled topped with port wine fig sauce		\$45.00	\$47.00		
Sunday Morning Send Off Hotel Guests - Breakfast in Lobby	0700-1000				N/C

For Room Reservations: Contact Hampton Inn at the address or phone listed above. Rooms are \$99/night + tax for Trail Side or \$129/night + tax for Bay Side. Ask for Group MBS rate. Reservations rate good until 3/12/2018. The uniform for the Conference meeting is business casual or Uniform G.

TOTAL

Conference attendees: Please make checks payable to Mobile Sail and Power Squadron and mail to:

Don Rowe PO Box 50212 Mobile, AL 36605

If you have questions, please call Don or Jan Rowe at 251-401-8812 or 251-401-8810, or email Don at: rowe32@comcast.net

Nominating Committee Report

Pursuant to Article 6 of the Bylaws of District 15, the following members are nominated for the specified positions for the 2018-2019 year.

Commander Joey Wheeler, AP

Executive Officer

Educational Officer Wil Hugli, SN

Administrative Officer

Secretary Maddalynn DeArmond, AP

Daniel Ross, S **Treasurer**

Assistant Secretary

Assistant Treasurer Charley Heintz, P Richard Carson, IN **Asst Educational Officer**

Nominating Committee:

1 year ... P/D/C Bill Arcediano, SN

2 year ... P/D/C Don Ellis, SN

3 year ...

Rules Committee:

1 year ... Ron Swope, SN

2 year ... Harry Hebb, SN

3 year ...

Auditing Committee:

1 year ... Eddie Brazeal, AP

2 year ... Karen Gercak, AP

3 year ...

Submitted by:

P/D/C Bill Arcediano, SN

P/D/C Don Ellis, SN

P/D/C Lenny Long, SN (Chairman)

Note: All 3 year committee members are new; most, but not all, 1 and 2 year members are continuing in their previously elected positions.

Section 6.1 Candidates for elective offices to be voted on at the spring conference shall be nominated by the Nominating Committee or by written petition signed by a total of at least 10 voting members in good standing from each of at least three squadrons. Such petition shall be sent by first class mail or delivered to the secretary at least 15 days before the date of the election. At least 10 days before the date of the election, the secretary shall forward the names of those nominated by petition to each member of the Council and to each past district commander of the district. Squadron commanders shall notify delegates representing their squadrons. Electronic notification shall be considered effective.

Section 6.2 If vacancies exist in the properly formulated slate of nominees at the time of any election, they shall be filled by nominations from the floor.

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 2018 Spring Conference.

The council will begin at 0900; the conference meeting will convene at 0930, 7 April 2018 at Hampton Inn Mobile-East Bay, Daphne AL.

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.

From the D/15 Secretary

D/Lt/C Maddalynn DeArmond, AP

District 15 Calendar

Conference Rotation Schedule

6-8 April 2018 Mobile, Hampton Inn 19-21 October 2018 New Orleans, Hilton Airport Spring 2019 Perdido Bay Fall 2019 Lake Pontchartrain Spring 2020 Mississippi Gulf Coast Fall 2020 Pensacola Spring 2021 Baton Rouge

Other Events

12-19 Aug 2018 Governing Board Minneapolis 17-23 Feb 2019 Annual Meeting USPS Orlando Rosen 8-15 Sept 2019 Governing Board Louisville 2020-2022 Annual Meeting Marriott Sawgrass

- Jacksonville, Florida



CAN 15







District 15 Spring Conference Agenda Saturday 7 April 2018



Hosted by Mobile Sail and Power Squadron Hampton Inn - Mobile, East Bay Daphne, AL Uniform G - Black trousers, white short sleeve shirt, no tie

Commanders and Exec Officers Breakout

Educational Breakout

0900 Spring Council Meeting

Call to Order Roll Call

Ouorum Confirmed by Secretary Report of the Nominating Committee Fall Council & Fall Conference Dates

Council Adjourned

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 Fall Conference Minutes Approval

Host Squadron's Welcome Chief Commander's Message **BRIDGE OFFICERS REPORTS**

Treasurer's Report Secretary's Report

Educational Officer's Report Executive Officer's Report Commander's Report Presentation of Awards

GENERAL COMMITTEES

Nominating Committee Report

Rules Committee Audit Report

Educational Fund Report

Election of Officers Unfinished Business New Business Benediction

Conference Recessed until Change of Watch

1145 Loyal Association of Navigators (LAN)

1215 Lunch (in hotel)

1600 - 1830 GulfOuest Maritime Museum Tour

1730 Drinks in the Atrium

1830-2200 Dinner, Change of Watch, GulfQuest Maritime Museum Uniform A, Appropriate Attire

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

D/C Barry DeArmond, AP P/D/C Don Ellis, SN-CN D/Lt/C Maddalynn DeArmond, AP P/D/C Lenny Long, SN

D/Lt/C Dan Ross, S D/C Barry DeArmond, AP

D/C Barry DeArmond, AP P/C Chester Cooke, SN-CN D/Lt/C Joey Wheeler, AP D/Lt/C John Gniadv. P P/D/C Don Ellis, SN-CN P/D/C Don Ellis, SN-CN

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 Donald W. Rowe, SN

P/C/C Robert Baldridge, SN-IN

D/Lt/C Dan Ross, S

D/Lt/C Maddalvnn DeArmond, AP

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

P/D/C Leonard Long, SN P/C Ron Swope, SN-IN P/C Taylor Baldridge, S P/D/C Luther O'Brien, SN

D/C Barry DeArmond, AP D/C Barry DeArmond, AP D/C Barry DeArmond, AP P/C Chester Cooke, SN-CN



From the D/15 Educational Officer From the Executive Officer

D/Lt/C Joey Wheeler, AP

Join us in Mobile on Saturday, 7 April at 0800 for the Educational Breakout before the Spring D/15 Conference Meeting.

Just back from the USPS Annual meeting in Orlando. My feelings from the Dallas Governing Board that USPS is changing and moving forward were reinforced and expanded in Orlando. This can be seen in virtually every aspect of the USPS. So many fresh and

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



1) A path to help troubled squadrons (this initiative started with our D/15 resolution)

innovative ideas were discussed. Some of the things that are happening from our National Organization:

- 2) Rebranding USPS to Americas Boating Club
 - 3) Targeted advertising
 - 4) Education
 - Renaming of Seamanship, Piloting, Advanced Piloting, Jr Navigation and Navigation to be more meaningful to the general public
 - Beginning to offer some course material in electronic form
 - Offering Seamanship Boat Handling as a traditional course or as a series of seminars
- 5) Beginning the process of updating the operations manual to more accurately reflect how squadrons actually function

As always, as we look forward to the new year we have the usual suspects on our mind: maintaining or increasing membership, our educational efforts, our boating and social activities to name a few. Ultimately however our organization is whatever we chose to make it. With this in mind, I encourage each of you to consider how you might contribute to your squadron, district or national organization. It may be something as simple as suggesting an interesting speaker for your next squadron meeting, considering a bridge position or anywhere in between.

I look forward to seeing each of you at the spring conference in Mobile.

From the March USPS News Blast

Register for *Emergencies on Board* Webinar
Are you prepared for emergencies on board? A new
webinar can help you deal with the most common crises
you may encounter while boating. Our Emergencies on
Board: Preparation for Handling Common Problems
webinar will provide you with the knowledge you need
to handle emergencies as they occur. Join us Tuesday,
March 20, 2018, at 8 p.m. ET. The cost is only \$25, a
reasonable investment for this important information.
To register, go to

http://www.usps.org/cgi-bin-nat/eddept/800/getregform.cgi?W-7391 or email Chris Windeler at cwindeler@mac.com

New Advanced Grade Course Names

In order to make our course names more descriptive of course content, the names of all the Advanced Grades courses are being updated as follows:

Current Name	New Name
Seamanship	Boat Handling
Piloting	Marine Navigation
Advanced Piloting	Advanced Marine Nav
Junior Navigation	Offshore Navigation
Navigation	Celestial Navigation

The same letter designations will continue to be used to indicate educational completions.

NEO Craig Fraser offered a 75-minute program on Friday at the Annual Meeting, entitled **Educational Department Program Updates**. To see the entire report go to the following webpage and click the link to download his PPT presentation.



There are four new **Life Members in District 15**. They are:

Charles Chapman, SN New Orleans Susak Kneller, SN Ft Walton Veronica Morgan, S Ft Walton John Wilkes, AP Miss Gulf Coast

Congratulations to all of them. Veronica was in Orlando and received her certificate fron C/C Louie Ojeda, SN at the Thursday night awards banquet.

Last Fall, the public site for USPS was rolled out as http://beyondboating.org. This year, it has already been changed to http://americasboatingclub.org This site is not handled by the IT Committee, it was designed by an ad agency. Future changes to the site will be handled by Yvonne Hill, HQ Director of Publications; and P/V/C Peter Mitchelson, past National Secretary.

There's a new **America's Boating Club® Marketing Guidebook**to help you promote and market



your squadron. It is extensive and comprehensive; use it as your Go-To compendium to understand and develop marketing programs to promote our organization. The Guidebook includes instructions and use of the America's Boating Club brand, and downloads for marketing materials such as a brochure and PowerPoint presentation, approved logos, instructions and information on marketing techniques, a training program on running a boat show booth, and the latest Brand Standards Manual.

https://www.usps.org/index.php/departments/12000/12400#

Tune in to America's Boating Channel

A new video debuts every week on United States Power Squadrons' America's Boating Channel. Like America's Boating Channel on Facebook. Follow America's Boating Channel on Twitter. Subscribe for FREE to America's Boating Channel on YouTube. Find offerings especially for USPS instructors at

http://americasboatingchannel.com/boating-channel-backstage Read more: http://americasboatingchannel.com

Check out the **Decal Awareness Program** page on the Safety Committee website to obtain information on downloading an assortment of new America's Boating Club posters, flyers and boat ramp signs. You'll also find a link to download templates for discounted, editable business cards.





Veronica receiving her Life Membership from C/C Ojeda

©2018 photo by Steve Erickson

The **USPS Marketing Committee**, with instructions from C/C Louie Ojeda,SN, is the driving force behind the change to America's Boating Club. During the course of the Orlando meetings, many specifics were issued.

The America's Boating Club name or logo can be substituted for the United States Power Squadrons name or ship's wheel logo wherever it appears. The text "America's Boating Club® is a trademark of the United States power Squadrons®" **MUST** appear on any page where America's Boating Club® is substituted for the traditional brand and used as the primary brand.

When initially used, it is suggested that both names and logos be incorporated to facilitate a smooth transition from the old brand to the new one. See the first page of CAN 15 for one possible example. Later, the traditional brand/name can be moved to a less prominent location. Keep in mind that legally and internally we are still the United States Power Squadrons, but we now have the option to use the America's Boating Club brand to increase our appeal to the public.

Decisions that Squadrons/Districts need to make:

- What should you call yourself?
- XXXX Boating Club may be confused with other local boating clubs. This is not acceptable.
- Correct format is 'America's Boating Club of XXXX'
- Link to national name and local identity
- Decide if you want to register a Doing Business As (DBA) name with your state as a Trade name or alias - not required
- Register in home state, may require county, or both
- \$25 \$30 for most state fees, county can be more
- Easy to complete online form (in most states)
- May require EIN, address, formal name, requested trade names, business description, etc.
- first research for no name conflicts

There was some late discussion as to whether the DBA name should require Marketing approval, but there was no decision on this.



Pictures from the USPS Annual Meeting in Orlando







© 2018 photo by Steve Erickson Working on Friday -Taylor and Robert at the Boat Live 365 booth; Cheryl at Publications table





©2018 photo by Steve Erickson Jeff and Christine Williams from Lake Pontchartrain



C/C Gary Cheney, SN and P/C/C Robert Baldridge, SN (photo provided by D/7)



Taylor Baldridge; Don Stark, USPS Liaison for Tall Ships 2018; Marjie Stark; Bert Rogers, Exec Director of Tall Ships America. D/15 members will have an opportunity to see the Tall Ships in April when they will be in both New Orleans and Pensacola.



Joey, Mady and Barry



More Pictures from Orlando





Louie, Ben, Mary Paige, Craig, Howard, Lee



Louie receives his P/C/C flag

© 2018 All photos by Steve Erickson





C/C Gary being sworn in by P/C/C Ernie

USPS National Bridge 2017

Chief Commander

National Executive Officer

National Educational Officer

National Administrative Officer

National Secretary

C/C Gary P. Chene

V/C Mary Paige Ab

V/C Craig D. Frase

V/C Ben Coons, SN

V/C Howard Yoas

Asst. National Secretary National Treasurer C/C Gary P. Cheney SN
V/C Mary Paige Abbott SN-IN
V/C Craig D. Fraser SN
r V/C Ben Coons, SN
V/C Howard Yoas SN-CN
R/C Harry Hebb, SN-CN
V/C Lee Popham JN



Robert evaluating Louie's performance

All photos from the 2018 Annual Meeting can be found at: https://usps.smugmug.com/Meetings/2018-Annual-Meeting/

Resolution Passed at Annual Meeting

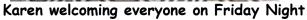
Be it resolved that the Board of Directors consider suitable recognition of members who have earned the Educational Achievement Award, at least 40 merit marks and are past district or squadron commanders and that, after consultation with the Heritage and Protocol Committee, the member be given an appropriate designation, such as "Distinguished Past Commander" or "Distinguished Past District Commander".



D/15 Fall 2017 Conference Hosted by Ft Walton Sail & Power Squadron







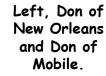


Saturday Meeting - Wil, Joey, Barry, Dan, Mady



Above, Asst Nat'l
Sec Harry Hebb
presenting C/C Louie
Ojeda's message.
Right, Mady
and D/C Barry;
Peggy Roy in the
background.







Glenn
presenting
info on
Boating
Safety and
Membership



Congratulations Ray Morgan, SN on 50 years of Membership in USPS