

**UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®
EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT**

Minutes of the Open Education Meeting

Friday, 16 September 2011

Greensboro, NC

R/C Bob Palmer, SN, Assistant National Educational Officer opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. There were 111 people in attendance.

After introductions were made, V/C Bob Sweet, SN spoke about having USPS come into the forefront and be recognized more readily. USPS is traditionally a classroom based organization, but technology is changing and USPS is changing as well, but we are not getting away from our classroom mode.

USPS is doing more partnering. We are partnering with Canadian Power Squadrons through our courses. We have partnered with US Sailing and particularly Dick Alsopp who helped us with our On the Water Instruction and with a grant from the Educational Fund developed our own On the Water Training Program. We also look forward to working more closely with the US Coast Guard Auxiliary.

A grant from the Coast Guard and our own Educational Fund purchased the Bullex laser fire extinguisher system. We asked the Educational Fund for a grant to purchase 3 sets of miniature anchors to assist us in hands on demonstrations for the Anchoring seminar, on the water training event or boat shows. All of these are available on loan from Headquarters.

Most of the states are having budget cuts and therefore fewer states will be able to offer the state boating courses free of charge. NASBLA has established a new Boating Education Standards Panel to come up with regulations for boating courses. Both V/C Robert Sweet and N/T/O Joe Gatfield of CPS are members of this panel.

Other partners that USPS has been working with include Brunswick Corporation and their dealers. Trawler Fest, produced by Passage Maker,

has provided USPS an opportunity to give our seminars and programs at their boat shows leading to Boat Operator Certification. Trawler Fest has purchased BOC kits to be re-sold at the show. The programs given at the show do not fulfill all of the requirements for Boat Operator Certification so the participants must come to the squadrons for the remaining courses or seminars. This benefits everyone.

P/R/C Bob Brandenstein and P/R/C Dick Pfenniger then spoke about the Brunswick partnership. Local squadrons have been asked for assistance in working with the dealers. Dealers can benefit by having seminars and courses given in their locations as well knowledgeable squadron members to help the prospective boat buyer learn about safe boating. This program can be offered to any Marine Dealer in the country. Just contact either Bob Brandenstein or Dick Pfenniger for assistance.

Ray Tsuneyoshi spoke about the plans to work with American Canoe Association, National Safe Boating Council, NASBLA, and the CG Auxiliary. Currently there are two programs available. One developed by the ACA and the other by the National Safe Boating Council. It is hoped that the two programs can be combined to provide the best practices of both and come up with one training course.

Next the various committees reported on their departments.

R/C Gene Danko – Electro-Mechanical systems reported that the quality of SC101 VHF Radio is poor and no longer capable for Search & Rescue. It can't be sold or installed after 25 March 2011, and as of 2012 the same will apply to all handhelds. 90% of recreational mariners are not registered, nor do they have their GPS units hooked up. This is imperative for Search & Rescue. The MMSI numbers are available through USPS and they must be put into the radio.

ME 101, 102 and 103 will be supported until Navigation Systems is completed. Rescue 21 is now active and operational for the entire coast of the United States. Detroit, Michigan is also currently operational and the Great Lakes will be completed by the end of 2011. Other areas will be completed in the following years with Alaska finally by 2017.

R/C Wil Hugli of Educational Outreach stated that a report from his committee was in the latest issue of *Currents*. If your squadron wants to teach in a High School or College contact Wil and he will help you find the best way to do this. E-learning is here and we need to get on board.

R/C Dick Carson of Public Education reported that the update for ABC3 is about to go to the printers and it will meet the NASBLA standards for 2012.

R/C Dick McGaughy of Inland Navigation reported the next printing of *Piloting* will include some minor corrections but no significant changes. The Advanced *Piloting Instructor Manual* is brand new and will be available at Headquarters shortly. The Student AP manual will issue an update shortly after current supply is used up. The *Weekend Navigator* has come out with a new revision which is in stock now. A new seminar *Tides & Currents* now available.

R/C Pat Greer of the Publishing Committee stated that all seminars are now coming out in booklet form with copies of the slides and notes imbedded within them. There is no longer an Instructor manual, but included is a pdf file on the Power Point CD with helpful tips for the instructor. As the seminars are updated there will be a separate CD for each seminar.

R/C Jim Runge of the Boat Handling Committee reported that Seamanship is in the process of being rewritten. Sail is also under rewrite. New seminars are Fuel & Boating and Emergencies on Board. The committee is working on other new seminars. They are: Man Overboard, Rules of the Road, Heavy Weather Sailing, Buying the Boat and a Boat Survey (a combination of 2 current seminars), and Boating at Night. There are on the water modules for teaching of Seamanship and Sail available online to be downloaded and used as the Instructor wishes. These are not required sections, just adjuncts to the courses.

Stf/C Chuck Wells of the Marine Environment Committee stated that the committee is responsible for 2 courses and 3 seminars. They are Cruise Planning, a completely new course that focuses on Inland and Coastal cruising and concentrating on shorter term cruises (1 to 4 weeks). Other cruise venues, such as the Great Lakes and western lakes will be included.

Hopefully the course will be completed by late 2012. The Weather course is undergoing revision and should be completed by summer of 2012.

The webinar on 500mb Charts given in June was well accepted and will probably be repeated. The Onboard weather forecasting seminar has been replaced with Basic Weather and Forecasting. The other seminar which has been out since last year is Boating on Rivers, Lakes and Locks.

R/C Art Molica of the Instructor Development committee reported that the Teaching Aids Competition is ready for the District Fall Conference contests. Each District is to pick their best of the best Teaching Aids and bring it to the Annual Meeting in Jacksonville in January. The new ID course will be presented at the Annual meeting and be ready to go by the end of the first quarter of 2012. The new Recertification course is now online and ready to be downloaded and taught at the Squadron level.

R/C Don Fiander of Offshore Navigation reported that both JN and N were doing well. There are 170 new Navigators in the past year. The JN course is being edited and rewritten to correct some errors in the text and to make the cruise and examination portion more workable and less crowded in the plot area. An agreement is being worked on with the owners of *CAPN* to permit USPS to provide license codes to our members and those of CPS who are using *CAPN* for the course, which we already are providing tech support for the software. Hopefully it will be finalized shortly.

Joyce Shaw, Chairman of the National Safe Boating Council stated that NFSB is proud to partner with USPS.

The Educational Fund Stimulus awards were then selected by random drawing based on members taking USPS courses. The awards list is attached to these minutes. They will be announced at the Governing Board meeting. The awards will be sent to the winner's home from Headquarters.

The meeting was adjourned at 1600.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Ellen Barbour, SN

USPS Educational Fund Stimulus Awards: Governing Board – Greensboro – September 2011

Seamanship – Floating Handheld VHF – Standard Horizon HX751 – 3

Dean R. Ford – D-17 – Knoxville Power Squadron

Dale L. Hutter – D-10 – Hiawatha Valley Sail & Power Squadron

Madelyn Jean Moore – D-16-Seattle Sail & Power Squadron

Piloting – Handheld GPS - Garmin GPSMAP 76cx – 3

David Hoch – D/13 – Las Vegas Sail & Power Squadron

Laurence J Purcell – D/28 – San Diego Sail & Power Squadron

Don Roy – D/13 Ventura Power Squadron

Adv. Piloting - Navigation Software - Coastal Explorer 2011 – Rose Point Navigation – 3

Frank J Handley – D/3 – Bayside Power Squadron

Karl Lherisson – D/3 – Oyster Bay Power Squadron

Brenda M Sumey – D/9 – Birmingham Power Squadron

Jr. Navigation - GPS Chart Plotter – 7” 50Ch Internal – Standard Horizon CP390 – 1

Brian E. Hackley – D/26 – Golden Corner Lakes Sail & Power Squadron

Engine Maintenance – Clamp on multi-meter - Blue Sea Systems – 3

Dennis M. Fenlon – D/31 – Grand Lake Sail & Power Squadron

Jeff Peterson – D/3 – Moriches Bay Power Squadron

Marc Theriault – D/26 North Strand Sail & Power Squadron

Marine Electronics Systems – Clamp on multi-meter - Blue Sea Systems – 3

Robert B Greene – D/16 North Olympic Sail & Power Squadron

Cora Kelly – D/3 – Jones Beach Power Squadron

Soren Prip – D/16 – North Olympic Sail & Power Squadron

Weather – Atlantis Barometer – Weems & Plath – 3

Charles Miceli – D/1 Meriden Power Squadron

Lance K Olson – D/9 – Grosse Pointe Power Squadron

Laurence Rogers – D/12 Nobscot Sail & Power Squadron