



## Central Wisconsin Squadron- Final Report Year 2006

Central Wisconsin had a very successful year with lots of involvement in Squadron activities and meetings as well as District and National meetings. We had members presenting and participating in all the meetings. Central Wisconsin Squadron had twelve members at the District Fall Conference and at least six or eight members at all the national meetings. Monthly squadron meetings were held with topics relating to boating and we were fortunate to enjoy some members sharing their boating trips and experiences. Executive meetings were held each month to continue the formation of plans and activities of the squadron.

Following the Mission Statement of the USPS “to promote recreational boating safety through education and civic activities while providing fellowship for our members” the squadron continues to emphasize boating classes throughout the year. We held four basic boating or ABC classes for the public. In these classes as well as providing safe boating information we informed the students about the squadron and informed them about the benefits of becoming members. Classes were also conducted to further the education of our members. Members completed course work in the following classes, Seamanship, Cruise planning, Instructor Development, Junior Navigation, Engine Maintenance and Operation Training.

In addition to these classes six members were recertified for CPR for two years. New Instructor recertification was completed by ten of our members. In addition to the classes for members we participated in several public water safety experiences. One was the Water Safety day for children held in the spring at Wausau. About one hundred children and their parents attended a morning session going through six stations which emphasized water safety. Our station was called “Learn About Boating Before You go Floating” and discussed getting into a boat safely, necessary equipment, well fitting life jackets, and general behavior while riding in a boat. Completing the six stations

each child received a USPS activity book, sunscreen, and a free life jacket provided by grants from Safe Kids and others.

Vessel Safety Checks continued to be emphasized throughout the boating season. Three special days were held at three locations, Lake Wausau, Lake Du Bay, and Green Lake. A total of one hundred vessel checks were made by our squadron examiners. In addition at each of these events we encourage other members to come and assist and become involved in the examinations to learn more about this worthy program.

Membership in our squadron, like many squadrons, decreased and changed throughout this year. It was an unusual year due to the fact we had three members who passed away. These were Lucy Krueger, P/C Roger Mc Abee S, and P/C Roy Van Dreser JN. Needless to say we will miss all of them in our squadron and their help and support.

Central Wisconsin earned a few rewards this year, including recognition for our newspaper "Between The Lines". We continue to better our Web site and are trying to get news out to our members and the general public. We have had four articles in the "Du Bay Dispatch" a Lake Owners newspaper, on boating safety. This was coordinated with the Vessel Safety Day on Lake Du Bay. We received recognition for our scrap book which was sent on to national. Twenty-nine of our members received merit marks for the work they did this year. We have several members who are not only busy with our squadron but have accepted responsibilities on the District and National Bridge and in Committees.

Central Wisconsin can look back at a busy and successful year due to the participation of many members. We know we all gain by being involved and accepting responsibilities as they come our way.

Submitted by:

Cdr. Donna Van Dreser, JN

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