



D 10 COMMUNICATOR

Notes From the D/C

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The District Commander's Thoughts

by D/C Jeff Hamilton, AP

Membership. Everyone's talking about it these days. At the National level, we're down to approximately 45,000 members from a high in the 60,000s fifteen years back. This year, membership in our organization is running 3-5% lower than last year depending on the month used for comparison (*that's a loss approximately equal to the size of District 10 this year*). Closer to home, as of the end of January, District 10 is trying to Do Something with nearly 12% fewer members. 12%! If averaged out across the district, this would be nearly 16 members per squadron. We know that members are the key to our fraternal (can't have events without them), civic (can't help the community without them) and educational (can't teach the public without them) aspects of our mission to promote safety in boating through education. The question is; how are you going to Do Something about it?

There is great debate at all levels of the organization about the reasons for our decline in membership. Rest assured, the National organization is looking at changes that create value to the extent people want to join. These are big changes, such as making our mission relevant in today's fast moving world, reevaluating the balance between tradition and progressiveness and making our educational offerings competitive to meet the needs of the modern recreational boating public. Changes in these areas are already brining us great new materials, better support and a higher level of efficiency. And, through the use of new, somewhat counter-intuitive approaches, it is expected we will become more effective at growing our organization. As a result, we've all been challenged to achieve the simple objective of growing our membership by 1% this year. Just 1%. In District 10, that's approximately 16 members, or what would have been an average of 1-2 members per squadron. But remember, we're down over 160 members, so that 1% growth goal is now effectively a 13% growth goal, or an objective to find an average of 16 new members per squadron!

How are we going to do this? As "cuisine for consideration," I offering the following...

We often look at membership growth goals as a means to finance the organization or to increase our ability to do the important work we do (promote safety in boating...see above). Unarguably, this is part of why we want to grow our organization. But what if we look at our growth goal as something different, perhaps something that has a deeper, more human reason for being worth pursuit? How then might that change our approach, and our success?

A man who attained great family, career and material success, Manley Goldfine, AP (Duluth) expressed humbleness over the opportunity to support our mission when honored after 50 years of membership. P/C Kris Harmon, AP (Hiawatha Valley) tells of what she views as a great Watch Year success; the members Hiawatha Valley developed their social conscience. I personally have found friendships with members

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D/C Jeff C. Hamilton, AP
<http://www.usps-d10.org/>

that will last my lifetime (I wouldn't want to try and list them all for fear of missing someone...see the DB2000 roster for a general indication). Cdr Dave Biddick, SN, who earned the Golden Eagle award this year for his efforts advancing Cooperative Charting in the district, found rewarding employment because of his involvement as a member. I can tell you of at least four members who found love, were married and became two couples. 209 members in 2005 gained knowledge.

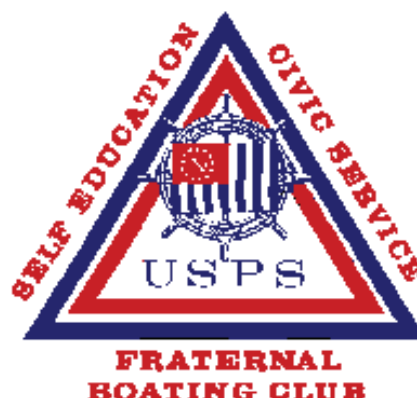
Knowledge, humility, social conscience, personal rewards, friendships and love. Quite the benefits to offer perspective new members of a boating organization (guaranteed only with involvement, of course)! Quite the benefits of your membership! Oh, and there is that education and safety in boating thing too...

Consider this; recruiting new members increases your opportunity to grow to these kinds of experiences. How are you going to be Creating Possibilities of your own in the 2006-2007 Watch Year to offer these kinds of experiences to somebody you know?

Regards,

D/C Jeff Hamilton

[D/C's Note: Since this will be my last article as your District Commander, I want to thank everyone for giving me the honor to serve you, and for your extraordinary effort during the 2005-2006 Watch Year. Without the efforts of every member in every squadron, I wouldn't be able to exclaim, We Did Something! A special thanks and deepest appreciation goes to my bridge officers, my Flag Lieutenant and Nance. You're all the greatest!]



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D10 Executive Officer

This has been an exciting and active time for your Executive Department. We have had activity in most of our departments during the first ten months of this watch year.

Co-op Charting -

Honors - At the Annual Meeting, Door County received an award for #1 Squadron in the Nation, Dave Biddick received recognition as the #1 Individual in the nation, and Dave won the Golden Eagle Award for the most effective District Chairperson in the nation. It was quite a sweep for Door County and District 10.

Goal - District and all Squadrons make the Honor Roll, The District has made the Honor roll and 8 of 11 squadrons have also. We are hoping the rest will finish strong by 1 April.

Program Changes - The USPS Cooperative Charting web site will be unavailable starting 4/3/2006 until 4/17/2006 for scheduled maintenance. On 4/17/2006 the new USPS Geodetic Data site where you can enter geodetic reports will be made available on the USPS web site. The new version of the USPS Cooperative Charting web site will also be available on 4/17/2005.

The standards for reporting geodetic marks have changed: Recoveries for landmark stations, including destroyed reports should no longer be submitted; Not found reports must be accompanied by supporting text that describes what has changed about the original description that might cause the station to be lost. Please do not report a station NOT FOUND if the last recovery is a NOT FOUND. This goes for POOR/DISTURBED too.

New Traveling Trophy - We have awarded our first D10 Pelican Award at the Fall Conference. The D10 Pelican Award is given to the Squadron with the most active and productive Co-op Charting Program. It is a handsome oak and acrylic combination with a real geodetic mark imbedded in the base and the Pelican symbol on the raised acrylic. Given Door County's #1 National Status, it obviously ended up there in its inaugural presentation.

Goal - Roll out District Co-op Charting Traveling Trophy Contest - Complete

Public Relations / Marketing

Safe Boating Week Initiative - There is to be a new initiative for Boating Education during Safe Boating week next spring. National is requesting that squadrons try to teach a boating class or seminar during Safe Boating Week. A substantial amount of publicity is planned, and new AV materials and Public Service Announcements are available. The squadron PRO's will need to coordinate an advertising campaign with the Educational Department in order to draw students to this important new initiative. There are some fresh Audio Visual Materials available from District featuring Popeye and Olive Oyl to promote Safe Boating classes. Contact D/Lt Jeff Davis, AP to receive your materials.

Reimbursement - Ten of eleven Squadrons have requested reimbursement for Cooperative Advertising from national and should now have their checks. Total disbursements were \$1,478, with \$1279 being reimbursed by national. There was a minor unbudgeted variance in that Squadrons received 100% reimbursement for the first \$60 of materials, but district only received 50% of that back. This resulted in an additional above plan expenditure of \$199. The free material order program has been discontinued. In addition, a couple of hundred dollars that would have been available from national had there been additional claims went unused.

Goal - Co-op Advertising material distributed via disk (with manual backup) to incoming commanders prior to winter council. This was completed.

Contests - Jeff Davis reminds the squadrons to begin saving materials for entries to the three public relations contests, (Chapman Scrapbook, Upton Video, & Mahnenk PowerPoint). They will be due next year on 1 March.

Goal - Increase the number entries in PR contests - pending at time of publication.

Legislative Liaison

Minnesota - Minnesota passed legislation requiring life jackets for children less than 10 years of age. It should be noted that this is different than the Federal requirement of 12 years old and under. Mandatory Education was introduced in the Legislature but did not pass.



Wisconsin - The Wisconsin bill that requires PFD use by children 12 and under, is still stuck in the Assembly rules committee. The Senate version of the bill passed the Senate but the senior leadership of the Assembly is preventing the Assembly Bill 260 from being advanced from the Rules Committee to the Assembly floor where a vote can take place. It is hoped that Wisconsin residents, if they support this legislation, would contact their Assembly Representative and the Assembly leaders that are not permitting this bill to

advance and have a floor vote.

The second bill (AB248) that requires completion of a boating safety course for anyone born after 1 January 1989 in order to operate a motorboat was passed by the Assembly voting 91 to 3 on December 6th. The senate should schedule a vote shortly. It is expected to pass and be signed into law this spring. Any encouragement that you could give your senator to pass this bill would be appreciated.

Safety

All eleven squadrons have submitted Safety Reports to the District Safety Officer and these have been forwarded to national.

Goal – All squadrons participate in a safety effort and submit paperwork by 1 October. All Squadrons participated in an event and submitted paperwork, final submission to National 7 November.

Goal – Recreational Boating Safety Honor Roll – we believe we have achieved this goal but have not been able to confirm our status.

Radio-Technical

The American Radio Relay League and USPS formally ratified a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on June 4, 2005. The MOU spells out areas where the two organizations can work together in educational activities of overlapping or mutual interest to their respective memberships.

Vessel Safety Checks

New Procedure - A new online procedure has been introduced at the Annual Meeting for sending Vessel Examinations to headquarters. From now on, local VSC chairs will enter summary data for each exam online, and hold the forms locally for backup. We will no longer be required to mail or fax forms into headquarters.

For 2005, District 10 completed 856 examinations in the district or 80% of the previous years total of 1071. Those districts in our region are at 90% of last year's totals. We have lost 11 inspectors as inspectors in the initial class of inspectors have dropped away from the program and are not being replaced quickly enough. That is why there is an emphasis on new inspectors in the Squadron VSC Program Excellence (Traveling Trophy).

Goal – Roll out our district VSC Traveling trophy contest – complete.

Goal – Improve District standing in comparative statistics. - NO

Recreational Boating Safety Visitation Program

This committee was organized after the spring conference. It is the result of an agreement with the USCG Auxiliary to expand the traditional Dealer Visitation Program. It envisions a program of visits, literature drops, and the building of relationships with an expanded network. These will be places such as sport shops, barbershops, doctor's offices, anyplace where boaters or potential boaters may traffic. P/D/C Art Mollica, presented a workshop at the fall conference introducing the program, and has opened up a session being held in St. Paul 25 March from 0900-1200 to other squadrons. Contact Art for details.

Squadron Development

A development effort has been underway in Dubuque, Iowa. D/Lt Jim Paul-Washa and D/1st/Lt Dick Baker are planning to have a booth at the Dubuque Boat Show 24-27 February and expect to follow up with a Boat Smart Class yet this spring.

Goal – Build a core group of locally interested people in Dubuque, Iowa to charter a Provisional Squadron. – Pending

Budget

As of 25 January, the department had spent \$2,768 or its \$3,200 budget, or 86.5%.

Thank-you

A department head is useless without a good staff. I would like to thank Jeff Davis, AP; Greg Korstad, AP; Fielding Loury Huesmann, S; Ron Kraase, SN; Claire Cox, P; Mike Wiedel, AP; Jim Paul-Washa, JN; and Jim Munger, N. Special thanks go to Dave Biddick, SN for bringing home the Golden Eagle and to Neil McMillin, SN and Marie Coons, P for their work with me on the new traveling trophies.

Invitation

As we wrap up our activities this year, I am also visiting most squadrons with my message on "Creating Possibilities". I hope to see you all at Spring Conference. On behalf of the committee, we have both good content and lots of fun in store for you, so please join us 29 March – 2 April. I've been led to believe I won't survive with my dignity intact.

D10 Administrative Officer

Being a district bridge officer who serves for a one year term is a rather bifurcated situation. Just when you are getting used to and knowing a position you are off in another different situation.

It has been a great experience being your District Administrative Officer during this year. I now feel that I know what needs to be done to accomplish the job, but as the nominated District Executive Officer I am now in the process of on the job learning for that position. My greatest disappointment has been the inability to increase our district membership. I know your incoming Administrative Officer, Al Harmon, has a lot of new and good ideas and like most of us I am hoping that they will turn the tide. Like all of you I have a

responsibility to keep our national organization and our local district and squadrons healthy, so any ideas you may have to improve the situation will be appreciated.

Over the last year we have had great district events, and there are a lot of you who need to be thanked for your efforts. Let's keep up the good work on that



<http://www.usps-d10.org/>

front this next year. For those who did not participate you missed some really great events and fellowship opportunities.

As for me this all started with last year's Spring Conference at Minnetonka, and all the great learning sessions we had: the Environment, Ditch Bags and Nanotechnology. Where could you get experiences like those? I had no idea what "nanos" were before the conference. Plus we threw in presentations on VSC, Cooperative Charting, and departmental workshops.

Those who attended the D/10 Summer Rendezvous had a ball, and those who did not frankly lost out on a lot of fun. I am still hearing about my cardboard boat effort, which drew a lot of laughs, but at least I got across the finish line in a boat that stayed upright and afloat.

Next came the Blue Harbor Conference at Sheboygan with all its potential discoveries: PowerPoint tricks, navigating your way around the Map Tech CD and finding your way in the Maritime Domain and the Weather Service products. We also learned much about the new RBSVP program and had our usual departmental workshops. Some of the attendees actually went down the water slide.

With these two Conferences we had a chance to do it all, renew our good friendship with fellow D/10 buddies (and some new ones) and still learn a lot.

There was also time this last year for two National Governing Board meetings and the Winter Council. At the Winter Council my presentation was along the lines of learning the new job with the incoming squadron executive officers, and that was very helpful for the future. I hope the incoming squadron XO got as much out of the workshop as I did in presenting it.

Well enough for the past, we have a great conference planned for Plymouth, Minnesota, starting on 31 March. Jenny and I were in the Twin Cities to meet with the committee planning the 2006 Spring Conference, and they are a well oiled machine. A lot can be learned at this conference: the Groundless Gourmet will be in the galley, the Army Corps will be talking about a new cooperative charting effort with USPS, and you will get a chance to see how those marine surveys are done. There will also be the usual great updates on VSC and Cooperative Charting by P/D/C Neil McMillin and D/Lt Dave Biddick. I have reviewed a copy of the Chief Commander's message and frankly no one should miss its presentation at the Spring Conference. Our organization is entering into (and has been in) some troubled waters of late and approaches meant to turn the ship around are being addressed in the Chief's message. As with all the events planned by the District, go to the District web site for the latest registration forms and information: <http://www.usps-d10.org/>.

The hotel for the upcoming Spring Conference is really a nice facility run now by the Radisson chain, but originally owned and designed by a Swedish concern, so it has very modern architectural elements and great conference and dining facilities and a bar with a great view as well.

For this year's summer rendezvous, make your plans now to attend the event being put on by the Milwaukee Squadron at the new State Park next to the Summerfest grounds on the lake. It starts on 28 July which is a new date, so mark your calendars. The event is planned to

be much like last year's summer rendezvous as far as cost and events are concerned, but at a big city setting. Have your youth posters ready for judging at the rendezvous.

We do not have any takers for the 2007 Summer Rendezvous or the 2007 Fall Conference, so get your squadron's bid in for those events.

The New Complete **Membership Manual** has been corrected. Anyone involved in recruiting new members or keeping old members involved and retained should spend some time reviewing this manual. If you have not obtained a copy go to: <http://www.usps.org/national/membership/memcommanual.htm>.

There are several awards which squadrons should consider during the 2006-2007 watch year. One, the MIRA Award, has an upcoming deadline. An entry must describe a program that was devised and utilized to increase membership involvement/retention and that has produced measurable results. We have got to have some good ideas to enhance membership, so put them into effect and then submit them to our District Involvement Chair, no later than 30 June 2006.

One final thought, let's make an effort this spring in all our public boating classes to get the best students to join and immediately get them involved. Consider having such a student help teach the next boating class or help with the next scheduled elective course. Getting them in as members is only half the job, the rest is INVOLVEMENT.

Maury Rice

Upcoming Events

D10 Spring Conference
Radisson Hotel, Bloomington, MN
Hosted by Minnetonka Squadron

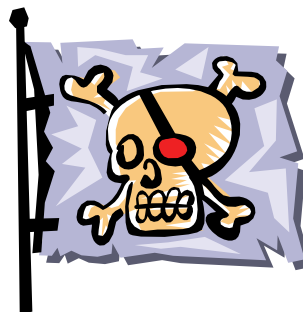
Mar 31-Apr 2

D10 Summer Rendezvous
Hosted by Milwaukee Squadron

July 14-16

D10 Fall Conference
Hudson House Inn, Hudson, WI
Hosted by St Paul Squadron

Sept 29-Oct 1



Pirates of Pigs Eye
Fall District Conference

<http://www.usps-d10.org/>

D10 Education Officer

During the fall conference last year at Sheboygan, many awards were given out by the Educational Department.

The **teaching aid competition** finished as follows:

<u>Place</u>	<u>Squadron</u>	<u>Aid</u>	<u>Award</u>
First	Madison	Compass	\$50
Second	Sheboygan	Exam Grading Aid	\$30
Third	Central Wisconsin	Large Size Plotter	\$20

The **individual instructor awards** were as follows:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Squadron</u>
Public Boating	D/Lt James Pahl-Washa, JN	Madison
Advanced Grades	Stf/C Arthur Mollica, SN	St. Paul
Elective Courses	P/Lt/C Frederick Petillo, AP	Madison
District & Squadron Seminars	Stf/C Michael Wiedel, AP	Milwaukee
District Chapman Award	Lt/C Donald Grover, SN	Central Wis.

Special **squadron awards** were as follows:

<u>Award</u>	<u>Squadron</u>
National Boating Federation Excellence in Boating Education	Oshkosh
Squadron Educational Achievement (SEA Award)	Central Wis.
Prince Henry Award	Madison

Three district 10 squadrons were recognized for high **national rankings** in various educational categories as follows:

Central Wisconsin:

Cruise Planning-first (cumulative) & third (annual)
Advanced Piloting-fourth (annual)
Sail-fifth (annual)
Educational Proficiency-sixth (annual)

Madison:

Marine Electronics-ninth (cumulative)

Sheboygan:

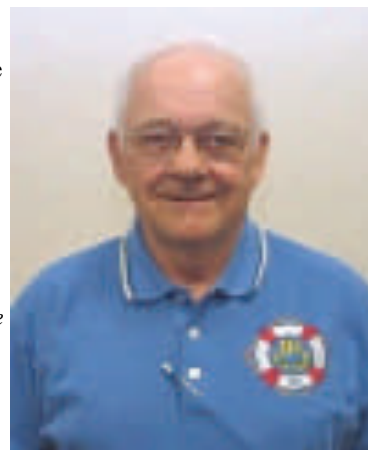
Junior Navigation-second (annual)

Congratulations to all of the above individuals and squadrons for their achievements. Special congratulations to the four top winners: Madison for their teaching aid, Central Wisconsin for the SEA award, Madison for the Prince Henry Award and Lt/C Donald Grover, SN for the District Chapman Award. In addition to the above awards, Central Wisconsin was also recognized at the national meeting as fourth overall in USPS based on squadron size for Educational Proficiency.

This past year most of our squadrons were excited about presenting either or both of the newly-revised Piloting and Advanced Piloting courses that featured GPS and other electronic navigation. This year we can look forward to a new Seamanship and Junior Navigation, both of which will follow the same format as P and AP.

Effective 1 January 2006, the new USPS Instructor Certification Program now requires squadrons to use only certified instructors for their public boating courses. It is easy to get certified. Just take and pass the Instructor Development Course. Because of this new requirement, I encourage all squadrons to offer the ID course every year. It is also easy to stay recertified. Just offer the two-hour instructor recertification seminar in your squadron or take it at the fall district conference. These two-hour seminars extend certification for four years. Congratulations to those members from D 10 that attended the seminar in Orlando. Those attending besides me were Maury Rice, Jenny Rice, Don Schult, Bernie Dohr, Al Harmon, Kris Harmon, Mike Wiedel, Jeff Hamilton, Don Hansen and Greg Holmen. Their certification is now good through 1/05/2010.

DEO continued on next page



D10 Treasurer Report

As I write this article, I found that I was just getting the hang of the treasurer's job and here the watch year is almost over! Seriously, it has been a great year for the Treasurer's department. All goals have been met this year; we have transitioned to a computer system using generally accepted accounting principles, which has streamlined the reporting, budgeting and resulted in tighter financial control. The District Bridge and Council received monthly budget reports so that they knew exactly where District 10 was financially, every step of the way.

During the year, I was able to provide the Squadron Treasurer's with assistance on any problems that cropped up, provided power point training seminars on new dues handling procedures and produced a nifty brochure for a desk reference on dues handling for the squadrons. I was able to address some of our "Five Somethings" initiatives that District Commander Hamilton implemented this watch year. I attended all national meetings and all district conferences as well as attending meetings and a rendezvous hosted by squadrons outside my home squadron. Finally the service and communication to all levels of the district was considerably improved.

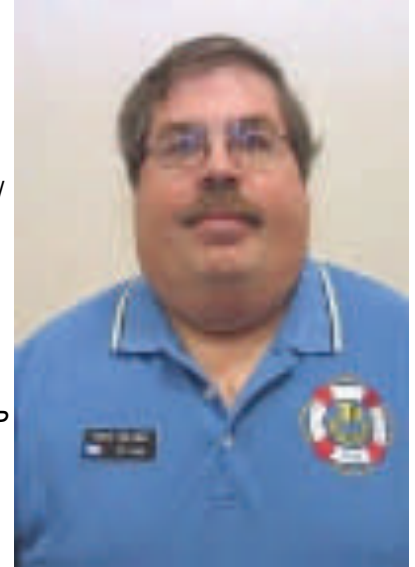
Another accomplishment this watch year, was a thorough review of the Enrichment Fund and Reserve Fund and separating them into two different accounts, so that interest earnings on both accounts could be tracked and reported separately. This allows the committee's who oversee these fund's to know what discretionary funds are available if a request should be received, and still follow the fund's parameters as decided by the Conference members. Last but certainly not least, the big news is for the first time in a few years, we realized the full budgeted revenue planned by the budget we proposed, and have a balanced budget. I can't take credit for this, for it is you, our valued members, who have shown the faith to steer our course out of the shoals and into deeper water. Credit also goes to the officers of your current bridge who have done a great job of overseeing their departmental budgets, and "tightened the belt" on expenses. Credit should also be given to P/D/C Don Schult, AP and D/C Jeff Hamilton, AP for their leadership and assistance with these issues.

We are well on our way to restoring the lost equity we have suffered in the past years. I can tell you that the

job of Treasurer is far easier to perform when there is money in the bank to cover the expenses of running the District! I appreciate the opportunity to have served as your Treasurer this past watch year, and hope to continue the good work we've accomplished, into this next watch year.

I also wish to thank D/Lt Rebecca Skelley, S, Assistant District Treasurer, D/Lt Jeff Davis, AP PRO, and P/Lt/C Gisela Murray, SN for their help, assistance and sound advice on pertinent financial matters and maintaining district property.

D/Lt/Cdr Greg Holmen P



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There will be a publicity blitz for Safe Boating Week this year by the USPS National Marketing Committee. We are encouraging all squadrons in District 10 to take advantage of this publicity and hold a public boating course during that week which is 20-26 May 2006.

We had a good SEO workshop at the winter council weekend. All of the squadrons but one were represented. Thanks to all who participated to help make it productive. We welcomed new incoming SEO's Lt/C David Hegarty, P, Milwaukee and Cdr Jennifer Cihak, S, Sheboygan. All other SEO's are staying on at least one more year. I hope to see all of the SEO's at the spring conference in the Twin Cities area.

*District 10 Educational Officer
D/Lt/C William V. Dohr, SN*

D10 Spring Conference

CALLING WHO? All United States Power Squadron Members living in District 10– to be in attendance at the D/10 Spring Conference.

New members – Come see your squadron commanders in action and experience what “District” is all about. It’s a weekend filled with opportunities for learning (educational seminars), networking (meet members from other squadrons in the district) and fun (Friday evening “Light Up the Night” party and the gala Change Of Watch on Saturday).

Not so new members (you thought I was going to call you old, didn’t you? Not on your life!) – Come meet some new friends and catch up with some not so new friends.

WHEN? 29 March – 2 April 2006

WHERE? The Radisson Hotel & Conference Center, 3131 Campus Drive, Plymouth, MN. It’s in the North-east corner of the intersection of highways I494 and MN55.

WHY? Minnetonka Power Squadron is again honored to host the D/10 Spring Conference. It is a chance to bid a fond farewell to D/C Jeff Hamilton, AP and see D/Lt/C Bob Stierna, SN take the helm. We will be privileged to have P/C/C Ted Smith, SN as our Chief Commander’s Representative at this Conference.

WHAT’S HAPPENING? There will be a Council meeting Friday evening followed by a “Light Up the Night” party. Bring or wear clothing or accessories that light up or glow in the dark! Saturday morning begins with a continental breakfast and the squadron officer workshops. Not an officer? Stick your head in anyway to see what really happens ... nobody’s been tossed out on his or her ear yet (well, I came close once, but promised to behave if I would be allowed stay)! There are several unusual, but interesting seminars scheduled including; “The Groundless Gourmet” presented by P/D/C Art Mollica, SN and “The Good, The Bad, & The Ugly – Discerning Quality in the Boatyard” presented by Lt Cliff Schmidt, P. The District Conference Meeting is scheduled for Saturday afternoon, and all members are encouraged to attend. Saturday evening is the District Change Of Watch. D/C Hamilton will be awarded the coveted Past Commander’s flag and D/Lt/C Stierna will be sworn in as our new D/C. In Bob’s own words “I’m hoping to bring a little nuttiness in.” Sounds like a good sentiment coming from a man being sworn in on April Fools day!

D/Lt Nancy R. Sullivan, S



Come Join the Fun

PRELIMINARY
INFORMATION

USPS® – 2006 DISTRICT 10 SPRING CONFERENCE

31 MARCH - 1 & 2 APRIL 2006 RADISSON HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER
3131 CAMPUS DRIVE PLYMOUTH, MINNESOTA 55441

Hosted by 7-Minnesota Power Squadron

UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS DISTRICT 10 2006



Creating
POSSIBILITIES

CONFERENCE HOTEL INFORMATION

DIRECT HOTEL RESERVATIONS

should be made by **15 March 2006**

RADISSON HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER

3131 Campus Drive, Plymouth, Minnesota 55441
Phone: 763-559-0000 • Fax: 763-559-1063



Reservations Worldwide:

www.radisson.com
1-800-533-3333

Ask for "USPS Power Squads" Desk

Room Rate Options:

Bed & Breakfast Option:

\$99.00 per night

Room without breakfast:

\$89.00 per night

Room reservations must be
made by **15 March 2006**
to receive the negotiated rate.



Hotel Breakfast Information

Breakfast will be included with your room rate
if you select the "Bed & Breakfast" option.

Day attendees will be able to purchase breakfast
on site for \$12.00/person.

WEEKEND HIGHLIGHTS



• Great Informational Seminars & Meetings!
(*Don't let being notified be our only!*)

• Socializing with Great D10 Friends!

• Great Fun & Food as we learn!

Don't miss out on an opportunity to attend the 2006 D10 Spring Conference. This year's Spring Conference is being held at the Radisson Hotel & Conference Center in Plymouth, Minnesota! Conveniently located in the Northwest Business Campus, adjacent to French Regional Park, with easy access to I-494 and Highway 55.

The Radisson Plymouth distinctively manages to blend the *warmth and comfort of a first class* with the efficiency and thoroughness of a *professional business facility*.

- 5 minutes to Ridgedale Mall Shopping Center
 - 10 minutes to downtown Minneapolis
 - 25 minutes to Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport
- Complete registration information and details may be available for distribution on request.*

FRIDAY LITE UP THE NITE PARTY



Friday evening will kick-off the social aspect of the weekend with a **"LITE UP THE NITE"** party.

You'll want to wear items that **"LIGHT UP"** and/or **"GLOW IN THE DARK!"**

Also, please bring a photograph of your boat!
(We hope there's a "PS" photo!)

SATURDAY DISTRICT 10 CHANGE OF WATCH

Saturday evening is an opportunity to participate in the annual **"DISTRICT 10 CHANGE OF WATCH"**

The evening is always enjoyable and a chance to "dress-up" as we recognize the past years accomplishments and an opportunity to show our support of the incoming officers as they take their oath of office.



Spring Conference Agenda

Radisson Conference Center

31 Mar – 2 April 2006

As of 9 Feb 06



Friday, 31 March

1500-1900	Registration
1600-1700	Nominating Committee Meeting Planning Committee Meeting
1730-1930	District Council Meeting
1930-2200	Light up the Night Party

Saturday, 1 April

0700-0900	Breakfast
0730-0930	Registration
0715-0755	Co-op Charting Update – D/Lt Dave Biddick, SN
0800-1500	Exhibits
0800-0930	Workshops Commander's Workshop Executive Department Workshop Administrative Department Workshop Education Department Workshop Secretary Department Workshop Treasurer Department Workshop First-Timers' Workshop
0940-1030	Seminar – “The Groundless Gourmet, Good Food Fast from the Galley” P/D/C Art Mollica, SN
1035-1125	Seminar: – “Army Corps of Engineers Cooperative Charting Efforts” - Duane Morrison, USACE Electronic Navigation Chart Data Team.
1130-1215	Seminar – “The Good, the Bad & the Ugly – discerning quality in the boatyard” Cliff Schmidt, Accredited Marine Surveyor, SAMS
1215-1300	Lunch
1300-1600	District Conference Meeting
1300-1600	Alternate Activity: Arbor Lakes Center
1800-1830	Milling To Music / Cash Bar
1830-2200	Dinner / Program / Awards / Change of Watch / Drawing

Sunday, 2 April

0700-0900	Breakfast
0730-0825	Vessel Safety Check update – P/D/C Neil McMillin, SN
0830-0925	Leadership Development – P/C/C Ted Smith, SN
0930-1025	Meet the Bridge
1030-1200	District 10 Bridge Meeting

Uniform of the Day:

Friday	USPS Golf / Polo Shirt (no tie)
Friday Night	Glow Wear
Saturday	Uniform F or G, or Appropriate Business Attire. Bridge Will Wear Uniform F
Sat Evening	Uniform A with Bow Tie or Appropriate Evening Attire
Sunday	Casual Attire

MINNETONKA POWER SQUADRON DISTRICT 10 2006



**Breaking
POSSIBILITIES**

WEEKEND HIGHLIGHTS

- Great Seminars: P/E/C Art Motives, SN will present "Groundless Gourmet: Good Food, Fast from Your Galley!" and

- Li. Cliff Schmidt: P Society of Accredited Marine Surveyors. "The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly - Escaping Quality in the Boatyard!"

- Great Opportunities to share information!

- Great Meetings packed with information!

- Great Friends from throughout District 10

- Great Food & Fun

Come spend an enjoyable weekend at this premier conference facility conveniently located at the intersection of I-194 and Highway 55 in Plymouth, Minnesota.

Friday Night - Life Up the Nile



Plan to wear items that "LIGHT UP" and/or

"GLOW" in the DARK!

Also, please bring a photo of your boat!

(No larger than a 4" x 6" photo)

Breakfast Information

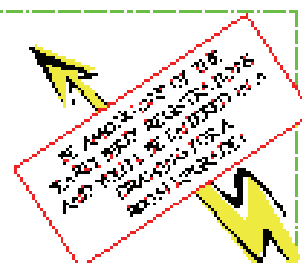
Breakfast will be included with your room rate if you select the "Bed & Breakfast" option. Day attendees are able to purchase breakfast for \$12.25/person.

See the registration form!

USPS® - DISTRICT 10 2006 SPRING CONFERENCE

31 MARCH - 1 & 2 APRIL 2006
RADISSON HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER
3131 CAMPUS DRIVE PLYMOUTH, MINNESOTA 55441

Hosted by Minnetonka Power Squadron



SQUADRON _____

RANK _____ NAME _____ GRADE _____

RANK _____ NAME _____ GRADE _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

DISTRICT POSITION _____

SQUADRON POSITION _____

SPOUSE/GUEST/NON-MEMBER _____

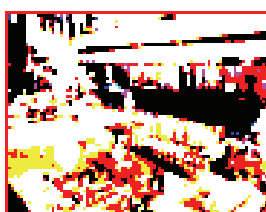
Is this your "First Time" attending a District Conference? ☐ Yes ☐ No

	PRICE FOR EARLY BIRD	COST AFTER 3/15/06	NUMBER	AMOUNT
FRIDAY Life Up The Nile Party <small>(See Registration Form D1)</small>	\$20.00	\$22.00	X _____	= _____
SATURDAY Breakfast for "Day Guests" <small>(See registration form for more information. Includes Breakfast and Eggs Benedict Dry-Cured)</small>	\$12.25	\$12.25	X _____	= _____
"Chef's Choice" Luncheon	\$20.00	\$22.00	X _____	= _____
Change of Watch Dinner: Pork Tenderloin <small>(Members from Port Townsend will be served special "Cider Soup")</small>	\$33.50	\$37.00	X _____	= _____
Salmon <small>(Dorset's Salmon, Salmon & Linguine, Cider and Fresh Berry Crisp)</small>	\$20.50	\$33.00	X _____	= _____
Vegetarian <small>(Portobello Mushroom Port)</small>	\$20.00	\$32.00	X _____	= _____
TOTAL AMOUNT _____ <small>Check payable to Minnetonka Power Squadron</small>				<input type="text"/>

Attire for the D/10 2006 Fall Conference
FRIDAY EVENING
"Life Up The Nile" Light-up &/or Glow in the Dark clothing
SATURDAY
Uniform F or G (Badge will wear Uniform F) or Appropriate Attire
SATURDAY EVENING
Class A Uniform with Bow Tie or Appropriate Attire

Mail this form and check payable to
Minnetonka Power Squadron
by **15 March 2006** to:
Lt. Lois Palmer, P
545 77th Street West, Eagan, MN 55121
E-mail: lpalmer@argentasystems.com
or Phone: 651-688-9342

Radisson
Hotel & Conference Center



DISTRICT HOTEL RESERVATIONS should be made by **10 March 2006**.

**Radisson Hotel &
Conference Center**

3131 Campus Drive
Plymouth, Minnesota 55441
Phone: 763-539-6600
Fax: 763-539-1053

Reservations Worldwide:
www.radisson.com
1-800-333-3333

For the "Life Up The Nile" Party

Room Rate Options:
Bed & Breakfast Option:
\$99.00 - tax per night
Room without breakfast:
\$89.00 - tax per night

Room reservations must be made by
10 March 2006

To receive the negotiated rate.

* Breakfast open at 7:00 am.
Bed & Breakfast option includes breakfast for 2 - additional breakfast may be purchased

National Involvement

District 10 well represented on the National level!

D-10 members are working hard not only on the squadron and district levels, but making D-10 look really good at the National level, too.

Of course we have our favorite doctor, R/C Alan Wentworth, SN serving as Rear Commander of the Planning Committee and, as Medical Officer, he serves as chair of the F.A.S.T. team. (First Aid Support Team). D/Lt Jeff Davis, AP of Saint Paul Sail and Power Squadron uses his past EMT/FireFighter training to also serve on F.A.S.T.

Three D-10 members hold the position of Staff Commanders at the National level.

P/D/C Art Mollica, SN was elected as Staff Commander of the National Publications Committee at the Annual Meeting just held in Orlando. D/Lt Nancy Sullivan, S, a member of Minnetonka Power Squadron serves on that committee, also.

The Environmental Committee was approved as a “real” committee, no longer “ad hoc” at Orlando, and D/Fl/Lt Andrea Davis AP, also of St. Paul Sail and Power was elected as Staff Commander for that committee. Andrea also serves as a writer and reader for the ENSIGN committee.

P/D/C Mike Wiedel, AP of Milwaukee Power Squadron was elected to serve as Staff Commander of Recreational Boating Safety Committee. Mike will also serve as an aide to the newly elected Chief Commander, Ernie Marshburn.

Kim Wiedel, P of Milwaukee Power Squadron, will serve as a special assistant to the Chief Commander in charge of Chief’s Hospitality Suite and Logistics.

Linda Golle of Minnetonka Power Squadron will serve as an aide to the Chief Commander. She will also be in charge of Seating and Table arrangements.

P/Lt/C Don Hansen, SN of St. Paul Sail and Power Squadron serves as a member of the Marine Environment Committee and is working on the new Weather course.. In Orlando, Don was presented with his life-time membership in USPS along with P/D/C Tom Rossini, SN of Duluth. Also receiving that award, but not present were Alex Anderson of Green Bay Sail and Power, Randolph Locke of Minnetonka, and Dale Preston of Green Bay Sail and Power Squadron,

Cdr. Greg Korstad, AP of Minnetonka Power Squadron serves on the National Law Committee.

Incoming Commander of Hiawatha Valley, Marie Coons, P works on the National Meetings Committee and P/D/C Ben Coons, AP of Hiawatha Valley was elected to serve on the National Nominating Committee.

P/D/Lt/C Ted Smyczek SN of the Milwaukee Power Squadron is working on the rewriting of the Seamanship Course.

P/C Carole Biddick, AP of the Door County Sail and Power Squadron and Lt. Bernie Dohr, AP both can be found working at the Ship’s Store at the National Meetings.

D/Lt Al Harmon, AP of Hiawatha Valley and D/Lt/C Maury Rice, AP of Central Wisconsin Sail and Power Squadron were elected as General members of the Governing Board.

P/D/C Don Schult, AP of Central Wisconsin Sail and Power Squadron serves on the Historian’s Committee. Lt. Kathy Schult, AP of Central Wisconsin Sail and Power Squadron serves on the National Membership Committee.

Way to go, D-10 members!!

D/Fl/Lt Andrea Davis AP

P/C/C Ted H. Smith, SN

P/C/C Theodore (Ted) H. Smith, SN, Assigned as Chief's Representative to D10 Spring Conference

P/C/C Theodore (Ted) H. Smith, SN, who served as Chief Commander from January 2002 until January 2004, has been asked to represent the Chief Commander at our District 10 Spring Conference and Change Of Watch being held 31 March–2 April 2006 at the Radisson Conference Center in Plymouth, Minnesota.

Ted, who lives in Grosse Pointe Woods (near Detroit), Michigan, and his companion Tina Pesek are members of the Grosse Pointe Power Squadron in District 9.

Ted joined USPS in 1970 and is a Life Member with thirty-four merit marks. At the squadron level, Ted has been chairman of the Rules, Planning, and Nominating Committees, taught Boating, Piloting, Seamanship, Instructor Qualification, and Operations Training and been elected to every squadron officer position including Commander in 1978. At the district level, Ted was elected Treasurer, Administrative Officer, Executive Officer, and, in 1984, District Commander. He has served as chairman of the Rules Committee, Nominating Committee, spent six years on the Planning Committee and was Co-Chair for District 9 sponsored USPS National Governing Board Meetings in 1987 and 1994. At the national level, Ted served on the National Membership Committee, National Treasurer's Seminar Committee and the National Meetings Committee. He was an aide for P/C/C Richard Miner, SN and P/C/C L. M. Barnes III, SN. Ted served on the Planning and Operating Committees, was elected National Administrative Officer, National Executive officer, and in January 2002, Chief Commander.

Ted is a native Detroit who began his professional career as a field engineer in the construction industry and progressed to president level positions, eventually acquiring a majority ownership interest of a Detroit-area construction company. Lately, he has been working as a consultant to the construction industry in the Detroit area while pursuing land development interests. Ted is a member of several engineering societies, fraternal organizations associated with the University of Michigan and is a past Commodore of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. He is presently a member of the Executive Board of the Detroit Area Council and the Boy Scouts of America.

Ted's companion, Tina Pesek, is also a USPS member. Ted has three daughters. Tina has two daughters and one son. All of the Smith and Pesek children have successfully taken a USPS squadron safe boating course. Tina and Ted have both enjoyed boating on the Great Lakes and on nearby Canadian waters. Currently they boat on nearby Lake St. Clair.

Don't miss your opportunity to meet Ted and Tina, two dedicated USPS members, and to hear the message Ted brings from the Chief. Make your plans now, send in your registration form and join us as we all "Create Possibilities."



*D/C Jeff Hamilton, AP
Minnetonka Power Squadron
Commander, District 10
United States Power Squadrons*

DISTRICT ROSTERS

If you are a member of the District bridge, a squadron commander or a squadron education officer, you are entitled to a free D-10 Roster which will be available at Spring Conference.

If you are NOT one of the above and want your very own copy of a roster, or you want more than one, those can be ordered at the cost of \$5.00/ea. Do you want one?

Please email : richard@TDS.net with your request--ASAP. Be prepared to pick up and pay at D-10 Spring Conference in Plymouth on March 31, April 1 and 2. (HAVE YOU REGISTERED YET??)

Plans from 'The New Guys'

I'm at a bit of a disadvantage. I'm writing this article before I'm sworn in as the **District Administrative Officer**. Some of you don't know me and I don't know some of you. Do you want to know about me, my USPS background or my USPS beliefs, or none of the above? It's a guess any way I go, so let me tell you what I know.

At the recent Winter Council, we used the time together with the incoming Squadron Administrative Officers to give them a jump-start in their new jobs. We developed the idea of building on the USPS Triangle shown here. Notice the Fraternal Boating Club at the base (not to say we are **that** more than any other side, it just happens to be on the base).



We developed an idea that the triangle was 3-dimensional and if you rotated the triangle vertically, you would find another triangle. We then set upon identifying the sides of the new Administrative triangle. This is the way the new Administrative triangle looks.

We positioned involvement on the bottom. Some time ago, a USPS study revealed, if a member was not involved early, the Squadron would not retain that member for than 2 years. Bottom line, **involvement drives retention**.

Retention assists membership growth and growth must be the goal of every squadron. Without growth, the jobs of the squadron will continuously go to the same people. When that happens, burnout occurs. What follows is a Squadron that can't seem to get people to step up, and as P/D/C Jeff would say, DO SOMETHING!

With this foundational understanding, each Squadron should focus on Involvement to drive retention and a focus on retention to leverage membership growth. The time we spend during Boat Smart classes, Vessel Safety inspections and networking with other hunters, fishermen, boating friends or people just wanting to "give back" to the community, give us great opportunities to recruit new members.

New members and retained members joined together to provide the Squadron growth, is the measure of a healthy Squadron!

Talk to you later. I'm District Lieutenant Commander Al Harmon. Thanks for listening.



Assistant Secretary

It's interesting to pause sometimes and take a look around yourself, and ponder how you come to be in the situation you are in at that moment. I am writing this as incoming District 10 Secretary for the 2006-2007 watch year. I can assure you that when my wife and I joined the Madison Sail and Power Squadron in 1998, neither of us saw ourselves serving the organization in any capacity. Cindy has since become our squadron's Commander, and I am serving at the District level. We realized very early on that the mission of USPS was an important one, and we wanted to do our part to further it.

Before we can step into the future, we need to look for a moment at the past. D/Lt/C David Carlson, SN has done an excellent job serving the District for the last three years as Secretary. I am sure that there were times, as he waited for us procrastinating Commanders to send our reports to him, that he looked forward to this time with anticipation. The whole District owes him a sincere thank you.

I am sorry to have to report on another retirement in this Department. D10 Communicator Editor D/Lt Robert Schmit, AP will hand over the job to someone else after this issue is published. The Editor serves in a critical role in an important part of the District's efforts. Bob's expertise will be sorely missed.

Looking forward, I will be ably assisted this year by D/1st/Lt Andrea Davis, AP. Andrea is an enthusiastic and energetic person who will be a key part of the Department.

Our incoming District Commander Bob Stierna, SN has adopted the phrase "Creating Possibilities" as his slogan for the year. Part of the job of the District Bridge is to give their Squadron counterparts the tools and skills needed to perform their tasks, thereby enabling them to create their own possibilities. This year you will see in every department, a concerted effort to provide training that will hopefully make each job easier and more rewarding.

This is an exciting time to be involved in USPS. With new leaders at all levels of our organization, you can expect new initiatives, new strategies and new results.

My closing phrase is meant to remind us that we are all boaters, as much as we are anything else. See you on the water.

D/1st/L Richard Baker, P

Slate of Officers for Election, 2006-2007

Commander	<u>D/Lt/C Robert Stierna, SN</u>		
Executive Officer	<u>D/Lt/C Maurice Rice Jr., AP</u>		
Education Officer	<u>D/Lt/C William Dohr, SN</u>		
Assistant Education Officer	<u>D/1st/Lt John H. Winger, SN</u>		
Administrative Officer	<u>D/1st/Lt Al Harmon, AP</u>		
Secretary	<u>D/1st/Lt Richard Baker, P</u>		
Assistant Secretary	<u>D/Flag Lt Andrea Davis, AP</u>		
Treasurer	<u>D/Lt/C Gregory M. Holman, P</u>		
Assistant Treasurer	<u>D/1st/Lt Rebecca Skelley, S</u>		
Rules Committee (3 year term)	<u>Cdr Geoff Carman, AP</u>		2009
	<u>P/D/Lt/C Thaddeus M. Smyczek, SN</u>		2008
	<u>P/D/Lt/C Judy McMillin, P</u>		2007
Planning Committee (3 year term)	<u>D/C Jeff Hamilton, AP</u>		2009
	<u>P/C Wes Koplitz, AP</u>		2009
	<u>P/C Carole Biddick, AP</u>		2008
	<u>P/D/C Donald Schult Sr., AP</u>		2008
	<u>P/D/C Art Mollica, SN</u>		2007
	<u>P/C Len Robinson, S</u>		2007
Audit Committee (3 year term)	<u>D/Lt Jeffrey Davis, AP</u>		2009
	<u>P/D/C Robert Stark, P</u>		2008
	<u>P/D/Lt/C Dennis Peterson, SN</u>		2007
Nominating Committee (3 yr term)	<u>P/D/C Donald Schult Sr., AP</u>	Central WI	2009
	<u>Cdr Kris Harmon, AP</u>	Hiawatha	2009
	<u>Lt/C Nancy R. Sullivan, S</u>	Minnetonka	2009
	<u>P/C Charles Grubb, P</u>	Duluth	2008
	<u>P/C Robert Hohert, P</u>	Madison	2008
	<u>Lt/C Suzanne Carman</u>	Oshkosh	2008
	<u>Cdr Jennifer Cihak, S</u>	Sheboygan	2008
	<u>D/Lt Kim Rutkowski</u>	Milwaukee	2007
	<u>P/C Richard Seibert, SN</u>	Green Bay	2007
	<u>P/D/C Jack Newman, SN</u>	St. Paul	2007
	<u>D/Lt David Biddick, SN</u>	Door County	2007
Nominating Committee Alternates (1 year term)			
Central Wisconsin	<u>D/Lt Kathy Schult, AP</u>		
Door County	<u>Lt William C. Galligan, P</u>		
Duluth	<u>P/C Robert Ouellette, AP</u>		
Green Bay	<u>P/C Ruth Wentworth, P</u>		
Hiawatha Valley	<u>P/D/C Ben Coons, AP</u>		
Madison	<u>P/C Stephen Bruns, SN</u>		
Milwaukee	<u>Lt/C Melvin Fabiszak, P</u>		
Minnetonka	<u>Cdr Greg Korstad, AP</u>		
Oshkosh	<u>P/C Wes Koplitz, AP</u>		
St. Paul	<u>P/D/C Art Mollica, SN</u>		
Sheboygan	<u>P/C Lyle Peschke, P</u>		

What is "R B S V P"?

Maybe you know it under the name Marine Dealer Visitation Program or have seen those USCG blue stickers on the door of your favorite marine dealer.

Recreational Boating Safety Visitation Program (RBSVP) is the new coalition effort between the USCG, USCG(Aux) and Power Squadron to expand the distribute safe boating information to the general public.

Whereas the old program worked exclusively with marine dealers and marinas, the revamped program is directed towards "any place boaters visit or wait." Think about these possibilities: church activities center; gas stations; barber shop; beauty salon; liquor store; hospital emergency room; grocery stores; etc.

Organized as part of the Vessel Safety Committee, the RBSVP program will involve all adult squadron members.

Because you are the contact person for any business/organization you sign-on to the program, you must pass an open-book examination to determine your knowledge of the program, USPS and vessel safety. On the national VSC committee web-page is a link to the RBSVP "Best Practices" guide, which contains all the information needed for earning your certification as a Program Visitor.

Contact your squadron VSC chair or Executive Officer for more information. Or drop me a message at artmollica@usfamil.net - (651) 777-0277 and I will assist you.

Newsletter Information

United States Power Squadrons® – District 10 will produce the District 10 Communicator twice during the Watch Year 2005-2006: Spring and Fall.

This newsletter is designed to notify members of upcoming District business and events and share news and information

between the Squadrons within District 10.

Members of District 10 are encouraged to participate in all District functions. For more information, call a District Officer listed on page 2 of this newsletter.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to

provide information, articles, photos, etc. Deadlines for all articles and ads is the 25th day of the month preceding the publication month outlined above. Submit all materials to District 10 Communicator newsletter editor, D/Lt BOB Schmit. Contact information is listed on page 2.



United States Power Squadrons®
District 10 Communicator

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