

D-10 Communicator



DISTRICT 10, A UNIT OF UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®

Sail and Power Boating

Volume 12 Issue 1

April 2016

From the Helm...

Not surprisingly, District 10 and several of D10's Squadrons have placed highly, receiving several awards from USPS for the year 2015. That's not to say that we don't have room for improvement. But we are on the right track. Let's keep it going and let's have FUN doing it.

Some highlights:

*Congratulations to the Duluth Sail & Power Squadron for being in 2nd place nationally for membership growth for squadrons having more than 115 members.

*Congratulations to D10 for being in 2nd place for membership growth having gained 91 new members in 2015.

Some lesser than good news:

*Summer Rendezvous: there were only 32 attendees who were not members of the Madison Sail & Power Squadron; rendezvous attendance has been drastically low for the past several years – should District 10 continue to fund this event?

*Only 17 of the 91 new members in D10 earned a Merit Mark in 2015. We must get new members actively involved.

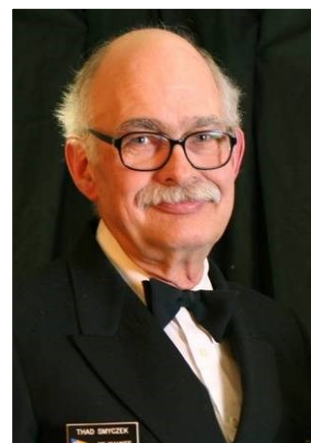
For more highlights, refer to the Articles by DXO Kris Harmon, AP, DEO Wes Koplitz, AP, DAO Bill Dohr, SN, District Secretary Amy Seeley, P and District Treasurer Tracy Anne Gustafson, AP.

It has been my privilege to serve in the capacity of District 10's Commander. Thank you for allowing me this privilege. I also want to thank you for surrounding me with an outstanding Bridge. Our TEAM has meshed well and we hope that it bodes well for the future of District 10 and the United States Power Squadrons®.

"Fly Our Ensign Proudly",

Thad Smyczek, SN

D10's D/C 2015 – 2016 Watch Year



D/C Thaddeus M. Smyczek, SN

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District Educational Department

As District 10 Education Officer, I want to invite you to our Spring Conference. I look forward to seeing all of you and I know that the St. Paul Sail & Power Squadron has been hard at work to make the weekend a great success as well as a worthwhile learning experience. I want to encourage you to attend as a "First Timer" or seasoned attendee. As with the last conference, we have made an effort to offer a full slate of events.

ABC3 (America's Boating Course) : Impact of the New Contract with NASBLA

USPS and NASBLA (National Association of Safety Boating Law Administrators) have a new agreement for three years (2015 – 2017). ABC has been revised to conform to terms of the deal. I invite and want to encourage you to attend my *Friday Afternoon Session* which will highlight revisions to our ABC3 course. I will present a few significant changes involved in the classroom, online version, examination, and reporting process of the program.

Instructor Re-certification

Al Wentworth and I will conduct an instructor re-certification session Saturday afternoon. We have several D-10 instructors in need of being re-certified. It is a requirement for anyone involved in teaching our public courses (especially ABC3) that instructors be certified. The re-certification process will take 2 hours and we will have a very meaningful session.

Please consider the scheduled session on the "Go to Meeting" process. The process is a great tool in providing our students with the online learning experience. One of my goals is to put the D-10 program in place which would offer education without having to venture out of the home. This session will present the process of using this valuable tool. After attending this seminar, you will not be intimidated by the process of initiating a "Go to Meeting" session. The tool is available to us as both a teaching tool and online meeting tool.

SEO Spring Conference Workshop

This is a call for all Squadron SEO's or assistant SEO's, and instructors to attend the Educational Department workshop. Please come and share your successes with your peers. I will be able to share information I received at the 2016 annual meeting Education Workshop and want to get much needed input from you. We in D-10 need to reverse the declining par-

ticipation in our course offerings. We had fewer ABC completions this past year. Overall, all course enrollments have decreased in recent times. Please note: This workshop is also open to all attendees.

Seminar: Boating on Rivers, Locks, etc.

We will have a 2 hour session presenting the USPS seminar on river boating. It is very timely as we will once again be thinking about getting our boats back on the water.



D/Lt/C Wesley D. Koplitz, AP

District Education Officer

D/Lt/C Wesley D. Koplitz, AP

Boating on Rivers, Locks, and Dams

The seminar deals with such varied topics as special navigation rules for rivers, the Western Rivers System of buoys and marks, river currents, "reading" a river, jetties and wing dams, the intricacies of locking through, and communicating with lock masters and bridge tenders.

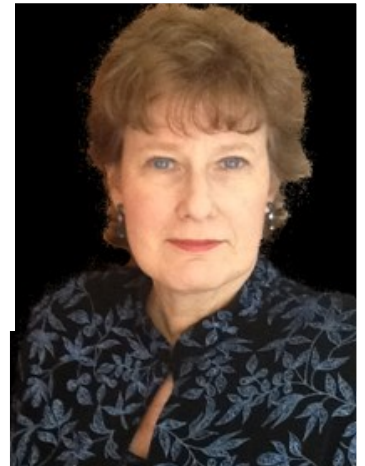
Instructor Re-certification

This two hour session will present a variety of thought provoking items, providing all attendees with an active discussion. Specific discussion will target your need to motivate the student in appropriate ways and make the learning environment more meaningful to everyone involved. USPS Instructors must re-certify every four years. Certification is required when teaching the public and a NASBLA requirement for ABC3.

District Executive Department

Coming About

By now, most of you have heard the good news that District 10 is one of a few USPS districts that experienced membership growth in 2015. WOW! That's actually GREAT news! Everyone is to be congratulated for such great results!!



D/Lt/C Kristine L. Harmon, AP

Here are my questions, though: Why did that happen? What did we do to change a 10-year downward trend? Is what we did repeatable? One thing I know is that greater retention of existing members contributed greatly – providing the platform that allowed new members to be considered growth. And almost every squadron had more new members this year than in a while. But why? What did we do right? How do we keep doing it? And, yes – We want to keep doing it! More members means more people actively promoting safer waters, and more people sharing the load of keeping our commitments as members of USPS.

At recent Changes of Watch, I've talked about four levels of competence – nothing I invented, but something I learned years ago as a rookie sales manager that's given me remarkable insight in many of life's endeavors.

- The first level is *Unconscious Incompetence*. At this stage, we're not doing things well and we don't know that we're not doing them well. (dumb and happy; ignorance is bliss)
- The second level is *Conscious Incompetence*. Now we know we're not doing things well – and we challenge ourselves to make corrections. (painful; not so much fun)
- The third level is *Unconscious Competence*. Things are starting to go well, but we're not totally sure why. Maybe we changed several things and we're unsure which has made the difference, or the most difference. We're also not sure whether whatever worked is repeatable and will help us retain our new Competence, or even improve on it. (light at the end of the tunnel; time to party?)
- The fourth level is *Conscious Competence*. Things are going right, exactly as we want them to. And we know why everything is working and we are confident we can do it again and again. (hurrah!)

My take on all this, in relation to the changes in D10 membership trends, is that we've achieved the third level of Unconscious Competence during the last two years. As your 2016 D/C nominee, I'd like us to take this year to figure out why and make it happen again – and achieve that fourth level of Conscious Competence.

So I decided on **"Coming About"** as my theme for the coming watch year. There doesn't seem to be a great need to change course, but we may need to occasionally "come about" to make corrections that will facilitate staying on course over all and enjoying ourselves as we approach our desired destination. When sailing, we come about to adjust to what's happening around us – wind, current, weather, other boats – but we don't necessarily change where we're headed. Coming about is rarely random; it is intentional and it is mindful. And it requires the attention (and to some degree, the participation) of everyone in the boat.

This is my vision for District 10: That we stay the course, making moderate intermediate changes to more effectively achieve our goals. And that we do so together – mindfully and intentionally – moving from the state of unconscious to conscious competence.

Thank you in advance for your vote of confidence in my potential to be an effective Commander for District 10 in the coming watch year. I look forward to seeing you all soon, if not at the Spring Conference (1-3 April in St. Paul), then at the Rendezvous or at your local Squadron events.

D/Lt/C Kris Harmon, AP
District 10 Executive Officer

District Administrative Department

This is my final Communicator article as your District 10 Administrative Officer. This has been a very good year in the District 10 Administrative Department with positive membership growth, outstanding events, youth poster contest entries and on-the-water events, capped off with a great experience and district recognitions at the national meeting in Orlando.

Membership

We have some welcome news in the district membership this year. The district membership grew by 2%. This was good for the third highest district growth in USPS (not counting District 30 which combined with other districts). Six of our 11 squadrons showed positive growth. They were:

| | |
|---|-----|
| Madison Sail & Power Squadron | 17% |
| Marinette/Menominee Sail & Power Squadron | 9% |
| Duluth Sail & Power Squadron | 9% |
| Central Wisconsin Sail & Power Squadron | 5% |
| Minnetonka Power Squadron | 3% |
| Door County Sail & Power Squadron | 2% |

Congratulations to all in the district that worked hard on membership growth.

Member Recognitions

Congratulations to the following D-10 members for their recognition at the Orlando national meeting:

2016 New Life Members:

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| William A. Carlson, SN | Duluth Sail & Power Squadron |
| Anthony R. DeNoto, JN | Door County Sail & Power Squadron |
| David A. Mattson, AP | Duluth Sail & Power Squadron |
| Jennifer Rice, S | Central Wisconsin Sail & Power Squadron |
| Leonard A Robinson, S | Duluth Sail & Power Squadron |
| John M. Sydloski, JN | Hiawatha Valley Sail & Power Squadron |
| Marshall V. Weber Jr., P | Minnetonka Power Squadron |

Meritorious Service Award:

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Donald Schult Sr., AP | Central Wisconsin Sail & Power Squadron |
|-----------------------|---|

VSC Century Award:

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| John Paprocki, SN | Central Wisconsin Sail & Power Squadron |
| Louis Pasquesi | Door County Sail & Power Squadron |

Chapman Award:

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Alan Wentworth, SN | Door County Sail & Power Squadron |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|



D/Lt/C William Dohr, SN-CN

Poster Contest

Thanks to St. Paul and to Central Wisconsin for bringing their youth posters to the district fall conference. Congratulations to the following winners:

| | | |
|-----------|--------------|---|
| Age 6-8 | Jane Abbott | St. Paul Sail & Power Squadron |
| Age 9-11 | Ginny Abbott | St. Paul Sail & Power Squadron |
| Age 12-14 | Amber Nowak | Central Wisconsin Sail & Power Squadron |

These posters were taken to Orlando for judging at the national meeting. We had no winners at the national level. The new theme for the 2016 contest is "Make it Personal! It's Your Life...It's Your Lifejacket!"

Events

Please come to the spring conference hosted by St. Paul in Lake Elmo, Minnesota on April 1-3 for the district change of watch, officer workshops, interesting seminars and much fun (maybe dance and genealogy lessons?). It should be an outstanding conference. Please see the registration and agenda sheets elsewhere in this publication for more information. This summer come to the district rendezvous in Green Bay on August 5-7 and witness the arrival of the tall ships. Bring your boats if you can. The fall conference will be in Oshkosh on November 11-13.

Thanks to Milwaukee and Minnetonka for hosting the spring and fall conferences with interesting seminars and workshops. Thanks to Madison for the summer rendezvous with two fun on-the-water events. We appreciate the effort and hard work of all involved to put on these events.

Finally

I want to thank the District Administrative Department staff for your help and support this year. The staff was as follows:

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| John Raby | Boating Activities |
| Jeff Davis | Conference Chair |
| Kristine Harmon | Leadership Development |
| Bernadette Dohr | Membership and Youth Poster Chair |
| Kathleen Schult | Member Benefits |
| Suzanne Carman | Member Involvement |

A special thanks to the seven squadron administrative officers for their work:

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Bernadette Dohr | Central Wisconsin Sail & Power Squadron |
| Wayne Dunbar | Green Bay Sail & Power Squadron |
| Cynthia Parisi | Madison Sail & Power Squadron |
| Amy Seely | Milwaukee Sail & Power Squadron |
| Kevin Wehrmann | Minnetonka Power Squadron |
| Carl Jansen | Oshkosh Power Squadron |
| Nancy Anderson | St. Paul Sail & Power Squadron |

District Administrative Officer

D/Lt/C William V. Dohr, SN

24 February 2016

District Secretary

As I am stepping into the Secretary's Department halfway through the year, I don't have a lot to pass on right now, but there are a few things you should know.

National Secretary V/C Peter Mitchelson has put out an excellent Power Point slide show on the duties of the Secretary. It can be found on the National website at: http://www.usps.org/national/ot/presentations.html#Secretary_Seminar_2016-02-02. I think this is a pretty important document to keep, so I am actually going to convert this Power Point into a pdf so it will be easier for everyone to access, and then ask our webmaster to store this on our District website. To be honest, there were things in this document that are handled by so many other people other than the Secretary or under the Secretary Department that I think the District needs to seriously look at this and re-evaluate who is doing what.

Speaking of the District website, I would also like to set it up where each officer of the District Bridge has their own section on it where they can post documents which could be of help to the people in those positions. This way, it just doesn't stay with the people who are currently in that position, and it may help others who come in afterwards. While the National website is better, sometimes it's easier to find items on our own District site.

I look forward to seeing all of you again at the Spring conference in April! If you need any help or have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

D/Lt/C Amy Seeley, P
District 10 Secretary



D/Lt/C Amy Seeley, P

D-10 Staff

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| District Commander | D/C Thad. Smyczek, SN | tmsmyczek@netzero.net |
| District Educational Officer | D/Lt/C Wesley D. Koplitz, AP | wkoplitz@aol.com |
| District Executive Officer | D/Lt/C Kris Harmon, AP | klharmon@comcast.net |
| District Administrative Officer | D/Lt/C William Dohr, SN-CN | billdohr@charter.net |
| District Secretary | D/Lt/C Amy Seeley, P | wxgoddess1@yahoo.com |
| District Treasurer | D/Lt/C Tracy Anne Gustafson, AP | gustag13@live.com |
| Immediate Past District Commander | P/D/C Dale Perry, N | daleperry@gmail.com |
| District Webmaster | D/L Leo Loeb, SN | leo@leoloeb.com |
| Communicator Editor | D/L Karen Bray, S | kobray@charter.net |

District Treasurer

Ahoy from the D10 Treasurer's Department!

Our financial position is looking good and we are staying within our budget, thanks to the due diligence for budgeting and spending of the bridge team. We can keep our squadrons strong by renewing our own memberships and bringing in new people who share our enjoyment of boating and community service. There will be a two dollar National Dues Increase this watch year to help National cover expenses.

I want to take this opportunity to mention to the squadrons that now is a good time to submit an Enrichment Application to D10 for up to \$750 to help launch a squadron membership, education, civic, fraternal, or administrative initiative. Please find this form on the district website under Treasurer.

I appreciate the opportunity to have served as your Treasurer this past watch year!

Have a Safe and Enjoyable 2016 Boating Season !

Fraternally,

D/Lt/C Tracy Gustafson, AP

"Never Regret The Things That Make You Smile !"



D/Lt/C Tracy Anne Gustafson, AP



UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®
SAIL AND POWER BOATING

District 10
District Lieutenant Commander Amy Seeley, P
District Secretary
3941 Saratoga Ave #211, Downers Grove, IL 60515
Cell (815) 922-9144
amoddes10@aol.com www.usps-d10.org

TO: District Officers, District Committee Chairpersons, Past District Commanders, Squadron Commanders, Lt/Cs, SEOs, Members of District 10 and Guests.

FROM: D/10 Secretary, D/Lt/C Amy Seeley, P

SUBJECT: CALL to D/10 Council Meeting in accordance with Section 5.6 and 5.6.1 of the D/10 Bylaws.

DATE: 01-03 April 2016

PLACE: Holiday Inn & Suites, 8511 Hudson Blvd N, Lake Elmo, MN 55042

In accordance with the bylaws of District 10, Section 5.6 and 5.6.1, the District 10 2016 Spring Conference (to which all members are cordially invited) has been called.

The Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 30 March 2016 via webinar, and will convene at 1900. An invitation to the webinar will be emailed to each attendee prior to the meeting.

The Conference Meeting will be held on Saturday 2 April 2016 at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites - Lake Elmo and will convene at 1000 for the purpose of acting on matters set forth below:

1. To receive and act upon reports of officers and committees.
2. Election of Officers
3. To consider any motions brought before the body.
4. To consider and act upon any other business that may properly come before this meeting.

D/Lt/C Amy Seeley, P
District 10 Secretary

Submitted by P/D/C Dale Perry, N

Five Steps to Increase Member Participation in District 10 Events

Step 1: Charge good people to figure out why members would turn out or stay away.

In response to an alarm raised by the district administrative officer at last year's Spring Conference, and direction from the district commander, the Member Participation Task Force began work to:

- Determine what all members liked and disliked about district-supported events: Spring Conference, Fall Conference and Summer Rendezvous.
- Recommend to the Planning Committee actions to increase member participation.

Member Participation Task Force

| Team Member | Home Squadron |
|---------------|---------------|
| Dick Baker | Madison |
| Carol Fritsch | Madison |
| Mel Fabiszak | Milwaukee |
| Lance Olson | Duluth |
| Mike Skelley | Minnetonka |

District 10 Planning Committee

| Member | Home Squadron |
|-------------|-----------------|
| Dick Baker | Madison |
| Marie Coons | Hiawatha Valley |
| Rob Gaddes | Minnetonka |
| Keith Kask | Minnetonka |

Step 2: Ask the members.

When the Participation team met with the Planning Committee, the joint group agreed they would most likely win member support for district events if they proposed actions that reflected member preferences as expressed by survey rather than debate among the investigators. Aware that people hate surveys and unsolicited email, and that we lack email addresses for many members, the group selected the email survey as the best among imperfect instruments of understanding. They developed a survey with just 10 questions that could be answered within five minutes, sending it to the 775 District 10 members with email addresses in the USPS national database. Forty-three of these emails were "bounced" because of invalid addresses, leaving us a population of 733 for our survey recipients. *This survey received by far the largest member response of any District 10 communication within the last five years.* A total of 146 members responded, providing 95% confidence that the opinions expressed reflected member preferences within 8% error. (For details, see the full survey report posted on the district website.)

Step 3: Identify changes that will offer what the members want.

District 10 members supported keeping all three district-sponsored events. Their survey responses indicated four changes as most likely to increase their participation:

1. Provide members the chance to learn something new and interesting at the Conference.
2. Hold the Conference at an appealing location. (2nd place tie).
3. Provide the chance for members to see people they like. (2nd place tie).
4. Reduce the cost of attending.

Continued on page 9

Step 4: Identify actions that will offer what the members want.

To provide these four changes, the Planning Committee identified the following actions:

- I. To provide the chance to learn something new and interesting.
 - a. Offer USPS seminars at each conference.
 - b. Engage effective trainers on timely topics at each conference.
 - c. Hold a challenging, boating-related event at each Rendezvous, with preliminary training provided as needed.
- II. To offer appealing locations and lower costs.
 - a. Establish multi-year booking commitments at hotels with desirable features and reasonable costs at locations within a 4-hour drive for 90% of the members.
 - i. The Twin Cities is recommended as the Minnesota site, with the Embassy Suites West (site of the 2015 Fall Conference) as a top candidate or model for a long-term booking site.
 - ii. Wausau is recommended as the Wisconsin site, with the Jefferson Street Inn as a top candidate or model for a long-term booking site.
 - b. Have district officers arrange for room rates, conference rooms, audio-visual equipment, meals, receptions & entertainment as terms for the long-term booking commitments.
 - c. Have sponsor duty rotate among squadrons, with the option for smaller squadrons to share sponsor duties (such as registration, welcoming and entertainment planning), and fund-raiser opportunities (such as raffles and auctions).
 - d. Convert all meals to buffet style to the extent that such a move would reduce cost.
- III. To enhance the chance of members' seeing people they like.
 - a. Use Facebook and other social media to provide information and generate "buzz" for each event.
 - b. This media would provide details on attendees, activities, presenters, seminars, nearby attractions.

Step 5: Validate recommendations and pursue accordingly.

We are now at this step. During the Saturday session of the 2016 Spring Conference, members will receive an overview of this report and have the opportunity to confirm, modify or outright reject the actions listed in step 4.

- Confirmation will encourage district leaders to take those actions.
- Modification will tune those actions for implementation by district leaders.
- Rejection will sustain the hits and misses of past efforts, and leave the path open for better proposals.



UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®
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District 10 – United States Power Squadrons, Inc.



Nominating Committee Chair 2015 - 2016
P/C Lance Olson, P

February 23, 2016

To: District 10 Secretary, Amy Seeley
From: District 10 Nominating Committee
Subject: Final Nominating Committee Report

In accordance with the Bylaws of District 10 of the United States Power Squadrons, the District 10 Nominating Committee is submitting this report of nominees for the 2016-2017 watch year. The slate of nominees provided below are members who have agreed to serve for the positions indicated and have been vetted and nominated by the Nominating Committee.

| | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|------|
| Commander | D/Lt/C Kris Harmon, AP | |
| Executive Officer | D/Lt/C William Dohr, SN | |
| Administration Officer | Open | |
| Educational Officer | D/Lt/C Wes Kopnitz, AP | |
| Assistant Education Officer | Stt/C Anthony DeNoto, JN | |
| Secretary | P/D/C Richard Baker, AP | |
| Treasurer | D/Lt/C Tracy Gustafson, AP | |
| Rules Committee (3 Year Term) | Stt/C James Pahl-Washa | 2017 |
| | P/D/C Richard Baker, AP | 2018 |
| | P/D/C Al Harmon, JN | 2019 |
| Planning Committee (3 Year Term) | D/C Marie Coons, P | 2017 |
| | P/C Rob Gaddas, P | 2017 |
| | P/D/C Dale Perry, N | 2018 |
| | Stt/C Anthony DeNoto, JN | 2018 |
| | P/D/C Ted Smyczek, SN | 2019 |
| Audit Committee (3 Year Term) | P/C Bob Satterfield, AP | 2019 |
| | Lt/C Onis Budde, P | 2017 |
| | D/Lt/C Sandra Broekema, S | 2018 |
| | P/C Len Robinson, S | 2019 |

"Fly Our Ensign Proudly"

D10 Nominating Committee Report
February 23, 2016
Page 2

Nominating Committee (3 Year Term)

| | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|------|
| Central Wisconsin | P/C Paul Roberts, AP | 2018 |
| Door County | OPEN | 2019 |
| Duluth | P/C Lance Olson, P | 2017 |
| Green Bay | OPEN | 2019 |
| Hiawatha Valley | Cdr Stuart Ohr, S | 2018 |
| Madison | P/C Cynthia Parisi, P | 2017 |
| Marinette/Menominee | P/C James Goodman, S | 2017 |
| Milwaukee | Cdr Charles Kersey, AP | 2019 |
| Minnnetonka | Stt/C Greg Korstad | 2018 |
| Oshkosh | P/C Carl Jansen, P | 2017 |
| St. Paul | Cdr John Gagich, S | 2019 |

Nominating Committee Alternates (1 Year Term)

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|------|
| Central Wisconsin | OPEN | 2017 |
| Door County | OPEN | 2017 |
| Duluth | Lt/C Paul Snider | 2017 |
| Green Bay | OPEN | 2017 |
| Hiawatha Valley | OPEN | 2017 |
| Madison | OPEN | 2017 |
| Marinette/Menominee | Lt Roger Quintan | 2017 |
| Milwaukee | OPEN | 2017 |
| Minnnetonka | OPEN | 2017 |
| Oshkosh | P/C Suzanne Carmen, S | 2017 |
| St. Paul | P/C Jeff Davis, AP | 2017 |

Respectfully Submitted,



P/C Lance R. Olson, P
Duluth Sail & Power Squadron
Chair, D10 2015-2016 Nominating Committee



United States Power Squadrons®

Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the FriendsSM

St. Paul Sail & Power Squadron Welcomes You

District 10 Spring Conference

1 - 3 April 2016

Holiday Inn & Suites, Lake Elmo MN

Registration



"Coming About"

Rank _____ Name _____ Grade _____
 Rank _____ Name _____ Grade _____
 Squadron _____ Sq Position/Committee _____
 Phone(s) _____ E-mail _____
 Children's Names & Ages _____

| EVENT | Cost | Number | Total |
|--|-------|--------|----------|
| Friday Night Dinner: Southern Barbequed Chicken and Ribs Buffet | \$ 35 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| Saturday Lunch: Bistro Sandwich Buffet (Turkey & Swiss, Ham & Cheese, Veggie & Provolone); Potato Salad, Chips, Fruit, Cookies | \$ 22 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| Saturday Field Trip: James J. Hill Historic Mansion | \$ 10 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| USPS University Seminar: Boating on Rivers, Locks and Lakes <i>(no fee if repeating)</i> | \$ 10 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| Saturday Dinner: <i>Indicate quantity of each. Bread, salad and dessert are included.</i> | | | |
| Apple Stuffed Pork Loin with roasted sweet potatoes & vegetable medley | \$ 32 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| Herb Crusted Walleye with cranberry wild rice & maple glazed carrots | \$ 36 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| Vegetarian Wild Mushroom Risotto Cake with maple glazed carrots | \$ 25 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| Special Dietary Requests: Please describe _____ | | | |
| Late fee if received after 25 March 2016 | | | \$ 10.00 |
| TOTAL | | | \$ _____ |

Please help us plan! Insert the initials of each registrant who is likely or planning to attend each of these events.
 (For event details, refer to the accompanying document, *2016 Spring Conference Events / Seminars / Workshops*.)

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|
| Fri: How to Update ABC3 | | Sat: First-Timers & "Orphans" | | Sat: ESD Awareness Initiative | |
| Fri: Hunting Geodetic Marks | | Sat: Recording VSCs | | Sat: Using GoToMeeting (4:30) | |
| Fri: New Ops Training | | Sat: Using GoToMeeting (1:45) | | Sun: Breakfast with the Bridge | |
| Sat: Dept. Workshop (Specify) | | Sat: Instructor Recertification | | Sun: Genealogy Presentation | |

Make checks payable to: St. Paul Sail & Power Squadron
Reply no later than: 28 March 2016
Mail form & check to: Cdr Nancy Gagich
 2234 Boulder Road
 Chanhassen, MN 55317
 (952) 934-5978
ngagich@mchsi.com

**See Page 2 for Hotel Details
and Event Descriptions.**

For more information, go to:
www.usps-d10.org

Hotel Information: Group Rate Reservation Deadline: 9 March 2016**Holiday Inn and Suites Lake Elmo**

8511 Hudson Boulevard

Lake Elmo, MN 55042

(651) 714-8068

- One mile east of I94/I494/I694 intersection
- Indoor swimming pool
- In-room refrigerator and coffee-maker

Ask for **Power Squadron rate of \$109**
for room with king bed or two queens.

Rate will be honored after 9 March
deadline based on availability.

Friday Night**Dancing with the Pros**

The evening begins with a cash bar in the Pavilion from 6:00 to 7:00.

7:00 brings the Southern BBQ Chicken & Ribs Buffet – house smoked bone-in chicken and ribs smothered in homemade BBQ sauce, accompanied by corn bread, green beans and baby red potatoes. And yes, there will be dessert!

Then get ready to dance! Following a brief demonstration, two professional couples from the Dancers Studio will teach us to Tango, Swing and Salsa. Wear your dancing shoes!!

Saturday Night**Celebration, White Walleye Auction and Rockin' to The River Rats**

Again, the evening begins with a cash bar in the Pavilion from 6:00 to 7:00. You will also be able to peruse the "White Walleye" items that will be up for both silent and audible auction.

Dinner will be served at 7:00, to be followed by a short program including the Change of Watch.

By 8:30, we will be Rockin' with the River Rats. Formed out of the love of music within the boating community, the River Rats are a collective group of musicians who are members and close friends of the local St. Croix Yacht Club from Stillwater, MN, including our own John Gagich on drums. The band features the best collection of fan favorite pop and rock tunes from every era from the 60's to present. Their music will have you up and out of your seat dancing and feeling good again! Sounds like dancing shoes will be in order again!

When the band takes a break (10:00-ish) we'll hold Honest Al's White Walleye Audible Auction.

Sometime during the evening, be sure to stop by Hotel Suite 101, where P/D/C Thad Smyczek will be providing hospitality in appreciation for all who contributed to the success of the 2015-16 Watch Year.

White Walleye Auction

Downsized your boat lately?

Redecorated the interior?

In the mood something new?

Everyone knows there are no white elephants in the lakes or rivers, so bring your unwrapped "White Walleyes" to the conference – those new or gently used items that no longer have a home on your boat. They might be perfectly good lines that are the wrong color, child-sized PFDs your kids or grandkids have outgrown, items of nautical décor, accessories and tools that are too big or too small for your current vessel.

We'll put everything out for silent auction on Saturday evening, selecting a few items that might be fun for Honest Al's White Walleye Audible Auction during the band break.

You know what "they" say: One man's trash is another man's treasure!

Proceeds will go toward Spring Conference entertainment costs. Receipts confirming your charitable contribution will be available upon request.

Suggested Attire

Friday: USPS Casual

Friday Evening: Casual; Dancing Shoes

Saturday: USPS/Squadron Team Shirts;
D10 Bridge Team Shirt

Saturday Evening: Men - Uniform A or Business
Attire Women - Dressy

Sunday: USPS Casual; D10 Bridge Team Shirt



United States Power Squadrons®

Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the FriendsSM



"Coming About"

District 10 Spring Council / Conference

30 March, 1 - 3 April 2016
Holiday Inn & Suites, Lake Elmo MN

Wednesday, 30 March

1900 - 2100 Spring Council Meeting, conducted via GoToMeeting

Friday, 1 April

1500 - 1900 Registration
1500 - 1700 Nominations Committee Meeting
1500 - 1700 Planning Committee Meeting
1500 - 1700 Audit Committee Meeting
1500 - 1700 Rules Committee Meeting
1700 - 1745 Mini-Workshop: How To - Update ABC3
1700 - 1745 Mini-Workshop: How To - Hunt & Report Geodetic Marks
1700 - 1745 Mini-Workshop: How To - Conduct Operations Training in 3 Hours
1800 - 1900 Cocktail Reception
1900 - 1945 DINNER
1945 >>>> Entertainment: *Dancing with the Pros*

Saturday, 2 April

0800 - 1200 Registration
0800 - 0945 Departmental Workshops
0845 - 0945 Open Session for First-Timers and Workshop "Orphans"
0945 - 1000 Break / Transition
1000 - 1200 Conference Meeting
1200 - 1215 Transition
1215 - 1330 BUFFET LUNCH
1330 - 1345 Transition
1330 - 1600 Field Trip to James J. Hill Historic Mansion (\$10 fee)
1345 - 1430 Mini-Workshop: How To - Record your own VSCs
1345 - 1430 Mini-Workshop: How To - Use GoToMeeting
1345 - 1615 Instructor Recertification
1445 - 1615 USPS Seminar: Boating on Rivers, Locks and Lakes (\$10 fee)
1630 - 1730 Mini-Workshop: ESD Awareness Initiative
1630 - 1730 Mini-Workshop: How To - Use GoToMeeting (repeat)
1800 - 1900 Cocktail Reception & White Walleye Preview
1900 - 1945 DINNER
1945 - 2030 Awards and Officer Installation
2030 >>>> Entertainment: *The River Rats*
P/D/C Hospitality / Appreciation
2200 - 2220 *Honest Al's White Walleye Audible Auction* (during band break)

Sunday, 3 April

0800 - 0900 Breakfast with the Bridge (*Machine Shed Restaurant, pay for your own*)
0915 - 1045 Speaker - Beginning Genealogy: Tracing Your Family History
1100 - 1200 Bridge Meeting



United States Power Squadrons®

Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the FriendsSM

District 10 Spring Conference

1 - 3 April 2016

Holiday Inn & Suites, Lake Elmo MN



"Coming About"

2016 Spring Conference Events / Seminars / Workshops

Your District 10 Bridge has planned the 2016 Spring Conference to be fun, interesting and educational for everyone. Here's a brief description of what's going on:

Mini-Workshop: How to Update ABC3

Friday 1 April, 5:00 to 5:45

Location: TBA

This short workshop will take the uncertainty out of posting your public boating classes on the national website – and recording participants after course completion. All Squadron Educational and Assistant Educational Officers, as well ABC3 instructors are candidates to benefit from this workshop.

No fee. Facilitated by D/Lt/C Wes Koplitz

Mini-Workshop: How to Hunt and Report Geodetic Marks (part of Cooperative Charting)

Friday 1 April, 5:00 to 5:45

Location: TBA

The geodetic mark recovery program allows members to find and report survey marks through individual or group activities. Learn how to use the national website to identify which markers need verification and report status of geodetic marks. Reporting corrections to nautical charts will also be discussed.

No fee. Facilitated by D/Lt/C Bill Dohr

Mini-Workshop: How to Conduct Operations Training in 3 Hours

Friday 1 April, 5:00 to 5:45

Location: TBA

A revised version of Operations Training was introduced at the recent USPS national meeting. This session will provide a preview of the presentation developed to deliver Operations Training in 3 hours. "OT in 3" is brief but informative; it replaces the current 4-session, 8-hour class; and it can be modified/enhanced to reflect your squadron. Wow!

No fee. Facilitated by D/Lt/C Kris Harmon

Departmental Workshops

Saturday 2 April, 8:00 to 9:45

Locations: Varied, TBA

These workshops are intended for current Squadron bridge officers as well as any members who have a position or role in the Exec, Admin, Education, Secretary or Treasurer departments of their squadrons. Additionally, they are open to anyone who has an interest in these aspects of squadron business.

Each facilitated by the corresponding D10 Bridge Officer

Open Session for First-Timers and Departmental Workshop “Orphans”

Saturday 2 April, 8:45 to 9:45

Location: Mesabi Room

If this is the first or second District Conference you’ve attended, or if you have nowhere else to go, spend some informal time with others to learn more about the purpose of Conferences and how you can benefit from attending. All questions, comments and insights are welcome. Visiting one or more of the Departmental Workshops can also be arranged.

Facilitated by D/C Thad Smyczek

District Conference

Saturday 2 April, 10:00 to 12:00

Location: TBA

Plan to attend the business meeting that is the focal point of our Spring Conference. The agenda will include: highlights of reports as submitted by Squadron Commanders and Bridge Officers; the Planning Committee’s Report on the recent member survey and an open forum regarding recommended actions; election of officers for the coming watch year.

Led by D/C Thad Smyczek

Field Trip: James J. Hill House

Saturday 2 April, 1:30 to 4:00

Location: Off-site. Meet in Lobby, then Carpool

Journey to the home built in 1891 by railroad magnate James J. Hill. The St. Paul Sail & Power Squadron has arranged a private, 75-minute tour that emphasizes the life and career of James J. Hill, including family and servant life, the architecture and interior design of the house, and the mechanical systems that provide heat, power, light, and communication for this “Gilded Age” home, a National Historic Landmark overlooking the City of St. Paul and Minnesota’s Capitol.

\$10.00. Minimum 10 advance registrations required; Hosted by P/C Nancy Anderson

Mini-Workshop: How to Record VSCs

Saturday 2 April, 1:45 to 2:30

Location: TBA

Whether you are a new or seasoned Vessel Examiner (VE), a member interested in becoming a VE or someone that wants to learn more about the VSC process, then this is the session for you. Find out how to become a VE, how to conduct VSCs, how to fill out a VSC form and how to report them to headquarters. You will learn the method to find your squadron results on the national website and how you are doing compared to other squadrons in the district. There will be discussions regarding how to organize a squadron event around a VSC event day and how to get other members involved in the event.

No fee. Facilitated by D/Lt/C Bill Dohr

Mini-Workshop: How to Use GoToMeeting

Saturday 2 April, 1:45 to 2:30 [If interest warrants, this session will be repeated from 4:30 to 5:15.]

Location: TBA

This workshop will focus on the key steps for using the GoToMeeting tool to conduct remote meetings or educational sessions. Topics will include: scheduling, inviting participants, connecting at the meeting time, meeting tools (audio, video, switching presenters, live chat, recording the session) and remote meeting etiquette. Be prepared to conduct your next long-distance meeting with no fear!

No fee. Facilitated by P/D/C Mike Skelley

Instructor Recertification Class

Saturday 2 April, 1:45 to 4:15

Location: TBA

This class is designed for all instructors with expired terms or those nearing expiration in 2016. (All USPS instructors must be re-certified every 4 years.) Presentation is via PowerPoint and interactive discussion. Upon session completion, you will be re-certified and National will be notified of your renewed credentials.

No fee. Taught by P/R/C Alan Wentworth

USPS Seminar: Boating on Rivers, Locks and Lakes

Saturday 2 April, 2:45 to 4:15

Location: TBA

Take this USPS University course for review and discussion on the following topics: special navigation rules for rivers; river currents; "reading" a river, jetties; locking through; the Western Rivers System of Buoys and Marks; communicating with Lock Masters and Bridge Tenders; and more!

All are invited to take this course, well-timed at the beginning of a new boating season. Even if you've already taken it, sit in for a refresher and to contribute to the discussion. Fee covers registration and slides handout. Books will be available for purchase at the class for an additional \$15.00.

\$10.00 for First-Timers; Repeaters for free. Led by P/D/C Al Harmon

Mini-Workshop: ESD (Electric Shock Drowning) Awareness Initiative

Saturday 2 April, 4:30 to 5:30

Location: TBA

District 10 remains committed to increasing awareness of ESD. We are organizing an area-wide effort to contact marina owners/operators and: 1) provide needed education as needed; 2) supplement their local efforts to educate their customers; and 3) recommend they install signage that will inform and warn the boating community about the dangers of ESD.

As such, we are asking each Squadron in D10 to organize a local initiative to visit all marina owners and operators in their areas. This workshop will include a discussion and handout/checklist covering the points our members should cover with each marina operator we contact, as well as information regarding how to order the ESD Prevention Association's signage for posting in and around marinas and launch sites in anticipation of the up-coming boating season.

We strongly recommend that at least one person from each squadron attend this workshop!!

No fee. Led by D/C Thad Smyczek, P/D/C Dale Perry and Lt Ed Lethert (Minnetonka)

Breakfast with the Bridge / Open Forum / Idea Exchange

Sunday 3 April, 8:00 to 9:00

Location: Machine Shed Restaurant

Come join your new D10 Bridge, Chief's Rep V/C Gary Cheney and other District members for an informal gathering over breakfast. Who knows where the discussions could lead us?

Buy your own breakfast. Facilitated by the D10 Bridge

Presentation: Beginning Genealogy – Tracing your Family History

Sunday 3 April, 9:15 to 10:45

Location: TBA

Professional genealogist Sheila Northrop will guide you through the basics of genealogical research, including basic fact collection, citing your sources and where to locate information on the web or at a repository. Sheila will also give you tips on available Family History software, DNA testing, and creating a final Family History product for sharing with family and friends.

More about Sheila Northrop: She is the President of www.FamilyTracer.net and was previously the co-president/founder of Midwest Ancestor Research. Sheila has more than 12 years of experience serving hundreds of clients of various backgrounds and nationalities. She is a long time member of many genealogical organizations, including the National Genealogical Society and the Association of Professional Genealogists, and she has previously served on the Board of the Minnesota Genealogical Society and the Irish Genealogical Society, International. Sheila has a degree in Mathematics with Computer Application, and also works as a Software Developer. Her analytical skills allow her to approach the subject of genealogy from a different vantage point than most. In addition to research and public speaking, Sheila's most recent genealogical projects include probability overlays for better cluster analysis of family groups in Ireland and researching the use of probability methods on alternative data for deciphering DNA results. For fun, Sheila collects humorous names, genealogical anecdotes and gravestone inscriptions.

No fee. Sponsored by "N" Club. Presented by Sheila Northrop