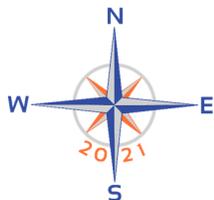


AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB®

For Boaters, By Boaters™



ONWARD & UPWARD

District 10

D10 Communicator



Volume 17 Issue 4

December 2021



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District 10

D10 Communicator

Volume 17 Issue 4

December 2021



D/C Kevin Wehrmann, S

Ahoy There District 10,

Welcome to the fourth edition of the 2021/ 2022 Watch year **D10 Communicator**. On behalf of the District Bridge and all the committees of D10 I would like to welcome you to another eventful year with **America's Boating Club!**

First off..... A BIG Thanks to all who attended the Fall Conference in Eau Claire! The St. Paul Squadron worked really hard to make this conference successful and fun. Some key points that really streamlined the conference:

1. The conference meeting was held to two hours.
2. Department workshops were held prior to the weekend giving us more time to enjoy the resort.
3. Approval of a balanced budget.
4. Saturday afternoon dedicated to FUN on the mini golf course.
5. Dairy Queen Peanut Buster Parfait.
6. A healthy discussion over the future of our District and the National organization.
7. The silent auction and the Bizarre Bazaar.

Special thanks to St. Paul Squadron and Commander Kris Harmon for organizing our first in person conference in a year and a half. **You Rock!**

During the last four years of serving at the district level I have come to realize and fully appreciate how much of an impact we make in our community and its surroundings. Thank you for your service, time, and enthusiastic energy!

Leadership Opportunities

The Nominating committee at the district level are working hard to find those of you who are interested in contributing to the organization by stepping up to a committee or into a leadership position. These are great opportunities to get to know what happens behind the scenes to make our District succeed. If you're interested, we have some vacancies left on the district level and could use your help.

District Secretary & Assistant Secretary

District Administrative Officer

District Assistant Treasurer

Rules & Planning Committee Members

Merit Marks

Merit Marks were Due November 15th

The new software is up and running. Tour this user-friendly updated program. Note effective on September 1st, data can be uploaded; you may start entering data now!

The Merit Mark program has been substantially enhanced by the Information Technology Committee at the National level of the Secretaries Department. It is now web based and no longer a function of the DB2000 client server-based system.

The URL for the new system is www.usps.org/meritmark

You will have to log into USPS.ORG to use this program.

The area monitor for District 10 is P/R/C James C. Acheson, SN

Cell 586-980-0530 JCAcheson@aol.com

Save the Date, 100 days until Spring Conference in Duluth at Pier B

Let's support the Duluth Squadron in hosting the Spring conference in Duluth Minnesota on March 25th through 27th at the Pier B Resort Hotel on the shores of the largest freshwater lake in the world, "Lake Superior"!

To promote good attendance for the Change of Watch, this event will be a combined COW holding the District COW and the Duluth COW in tandem just like we did for the Spring Conference of 2020 with the Minnetonka Squadron. Our goal is to have 100 members to attend the Change of Watch ceremony on the Saturday night the 26th. I guarantee you won't be disappointed with this venue; Pier B is a really nice location for the event. Although we are in the early stages of planning the event, I heard a rumor that some of the meetings may be held at the Great Lakes Aquarium on the Duluth waterfront. Hope to see you in Duluth!

50 Year Members for 2021

A BIG shout out and Congratulations to FIVE Members of District 10.

FIFTY YEARS of Service and Dedication to the United States Power Squadrons and America's Boating Club!!

Duluth Sail & Power Squadron, William C. Gooder, 28 merit Marks

Green Bay Sail & Power Squadron, Merlin J. Baenen 7 merit marks

Madison Sail & Power Squadron, Glenn A. Deedon 38 merit marks

Madison Sail & Power Squadron, Fred R. Nelson 28 merit marks

Madison Sail & Power Squadron, Milton R. Smith 26 merit marks



[District 10 Potential Life Members for 2021](#)

Attaining Life Membership in America's Boating Club is a significant achievement for the individual and the organization. As you know, the awarding of the 25th Merit Mark means the individual qualifies as a Life Member. Below is a list of those individuals who have earned 24 Merit Marks through 2020.

Duluth, Mary Ann Brisky

Duluth, Steve Farrell

Duluth, Kristi Kay Stokes

Green Bay, Ted S. Kordes

Madison, Julie Pahl-Washa

Oshkosh, Geoff C. Carman

[District 10 New Website is up and Running](#)

[Thank You](#) Leo Loeb has been serving as the District Webmaster for over ten years!! Leo thank you for all that you have done for District 10.....***You Rock!!***

[We Need Your HELP!](#) The Marketing committee is seeking photos for the new website. Photos of interest in your boating backyard.

Topics Include:

Mississippi River scenery with boaters

Great Lakes, Superior and Lake Michigan

Tall Ships, Green Bay and Milwaukee

Fox Locks Rendezvous pictures of the locks and bridges in Oshkosh

Wisconsin Dells boat trip Rendezvous

Light house photos anywhere in our boating area from the Great Lakes

St. Croix River

Canoeing or Kayaking photos

Safe Boating Week activities

The photographs we do not use will be stored in a photo vault for future use.

Remember with a Boat and a Little Imagination We Can Go Anywhere!

Wishing you a safe, healthy, and fun filled Christmas and New Year!

D/C Kevin Wehrmann, S



2021 D10 FALL CONFERENCE



Thank You Kris Harmon & St. Paul for Hosting



2021 D10 FALL CONFERENCE





District Executive Department



D/LT/C Chad Lowney, AP

What a change in the weather we have had, leading to my least favorite time of the year, weatherizing my boat so the vessel makes it through the cold weather without damage. Many a boaters' dread is the end of the boating season while their hope is the end of winter and the return of boating.

For those of you who missed Fall Conference at The Metropolis Resort in Eau Claire, WI hosted by St. Paul, what a gorgeous and fun-filled weekend we had. The temperatures were great, brilliant blue skies and a great setting. St. Paul did an outstanding job planning and organizing the event. My congratulations and hats off to every St. Paul member.

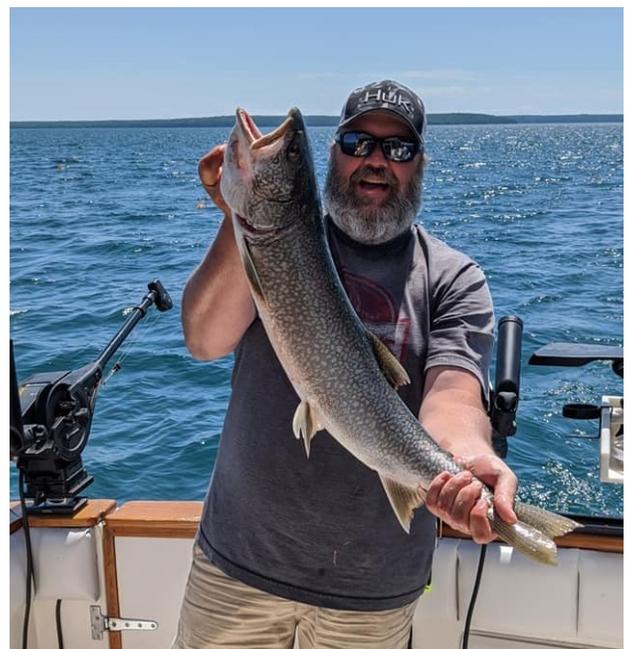
With the long winter staring us down, let's not forget about civic service duties to shorten it up! Co-op charting is and has always been a great way to kill the time. I had a chance to talk with a few individuals during the fall conference about how they make a "date" day for searching and reporting. It's easy to do and a fun way to get together.

Even though it's just the beginning of winter, it's never too early to start thinking about VSC's. We ended up meeting our goal last year, but I think for 2022 we should blow that out of the water, so to speak. Members like to buy boats during the winter months, offer up a VSC to get a jump on the season!

Merit Mark season has arrived. By now you may be receiving yours. While Merit Marks may seem antiquated, they are still the only means your commander has of recognizing all your work. The recognition is not just within your own squadron, but also the district and national levels because the works represented are a very large investment in our teaching efforts that contribute to saving lives. My heartiest congratulations to each and every one who achieves a Merit Mark. Thank you for your commitment and a job well done.

Have a happy holiday season and bring on the ice fishing!

D/Lt/C Chad Lowney, AP
Executive Officer





District Educational Department D10 Communicator Education Officer Article



R/C Wesley D. Koplitz, JN-CN

Once again, we approach the end of another year as members of America's Boating Club. As your DEO I want to wish all a meaningful Christmas and holiday season.

Summary of the 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 USPS Educational Year

If you were unable to attend our Fall Conference in Eau Claire, I will summarize our D-10 Educational year.

Five of eleven squadrons conducted ABC3 (America's Boating Course): 30 Completions out of 33 Registered.
NOTE: Each Squadron is required to offer a public safe boating course each year.

58 Grade completions were awarded: (Piloting, Boat Handling, Advanced Piloting, Junior Navigation, and Navigation)

14 Elective completions: (Marine Electronics, Sail and Instructor Development)

37 Seminars completed: (AIS, MOB, Chart1 and Boat Handling Emergencies)

District 10 Education Awards

Congratulations to Minnetonka for winning the Prince Henry!

Congratulations to Oshkosh for winning the SEA (Squadron Educational Achievement)!

New Education Calendar

Please check out our new D-10 website. Become familiar with the calendar as it will be used to promote future district virtual education classes.

Early 2022 Educational Virtual Offerings

As your DEO I have two unfinished goals.

Goal One: Conduct Instructor Re-certification for recently expired ABC instructors. I will use DB2000 to identify those individuals in need of a virtual training renewal session.

Goal Two: Begin an Instructor Development Course. I have a list of individuals and will be contacting them soon via email. This course contains six virtual sessions in addition to student presentations.

Both programs will be conducted virtually via the internet.



District Educational Department

BOC Training in July 2022

I invite you to consider your interest in the Boat Operator Certification program. Our USPS BOC staff are still scheduled to conduct BOC training in Sturgeon Bay next July. Now is the time for you to obtain your passport and work with your squadron BOC representative in preparation. The final dates of the event and pertinent information will be released soon.

D/Lt/C Wesley D. Koplitz, AP-CN

District 10 Educational Officer

Rear Cdr Public Boating Committee





District Administrative Department

MEMBERSHIP IS JOB 1



D/Lt/C Suzanne Carman, S

District 10 is growing! Membership retention continues to be a priority for District 10, and is our biggest challenge. This is the biggest issue facing the National organization and is the focus of our Chief Commander V/C Mary Paige Abbott. As of November, our membership retention rate is up to 91.1% which is the best in 5 years! Thank you all for your efforts. Work still remains to build membership, but keep up your good work in retaining members.

Our New Member Goal has been met! Great news! We have smashed our goal of adding at least 100 new members in 2021. As of November, we have added 145 new members to District 10.

District 10 leads the nation in growth too! As of the end of October District 10 has 955 members. As a whole, we are up 10.4% over last year. This leads the nation from both a percentage of growth and total number of members added.

The Fall Conference was a huge success this year! A BIG thanks goes out to Kris Harmon and the members of St. Paul Sail and Power Squadron who hosted this event at the beautiful Metropolis Resort & Conference Center in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. I think all of the District 10 members would agree that it was great to meet together again in person!!! After our Saturday morning conference meeting, the afternoon was dedicated to fun social activities at the Action City in the resort. Members enjoyed the indoor go carts, miniature golf, and the Dairy Queen treats! Thank you to everyone who attended!

I am very pleased to announce how well District 10 did this year with the MIRA awards. First place went to Duluth and second place went to Minnetonka! I would like to thank those who submitted a MIRA application this year. Honorable mention goes out to Madison, Central Wisconsin, and Oshkosh. This is a great membership retention tool. We were able to exceed our goal for this year. I appreciate your efforts.



District Administrative Department

Thank you for those who attended the Administration Virtual Workshop in November. Admin officers shared their best membership retention techniques which included hosting Holiday parties, Corn roasts, and Shrimp boils in the summer. Some squadrons enjoy an autumn river boat cruise. Other ideas included getting new members assigned to a committee and sending out mailings about benefits, class schedules, and up and coming squadron events. Everyone agreed that making phone calls while adding that personal touch is so important. Be sure to complete a MIRA application in the Spring (May 15th). This will ensure that you have a great plan in place for the year for your members.

The ensign magazine has moved to electronic distribution. Log onto the national website to read this publication.

During the watch year I have been receiving squadron non-renewal lists from our national administrative officer V/C Ralph A. Bernard, AP. Using this information, I contacted squadrons involved asking them to get into touch with the members on their list in an effort to have them renew. Thank you all for following up with all members.

I would like to thank all Squadron Administration Officers for their commitment and dedication to District 10 and America's Boating Club.

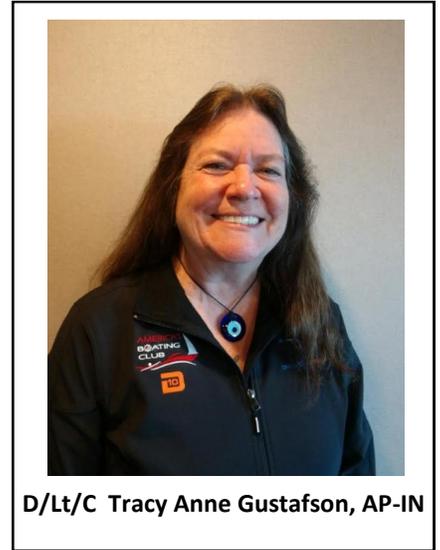
Looking forward to 2022, our National Annual Meeting will be held February 19-27 in Ponte Vedra, Florida. The 2022 District 10 Spring Conference will be held in Duluth, the weekend of March 26th. The 2022 Summer Rendezvous will be held in beautiful Door County, September 9-11th.

We hope you had a lovely Thanksgiving and I wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Thank you,
D/Lt/C Suzanne Carman, S



District Treasurer



D/Lt/C Tracy Anne Gustafson, AP-IN

Ahoy from the D-10 Treasurer's Department,

What a Beautiful fall we have had. The colors were amazing and the drought made some interesting changes from the norm.

The Fall Conference was a fantastic success. It was great to see representatives from all of our different squadrons in D-10 get together in person again. Great Venue and Value at the Metropolis in Eau Claire and Great Camaraderie. I could not wipe the smile off my face every time I did the Go-Karts. I also loved being on Team "Peanut Buster Parfait" for mini-golf and then topping that off with DQ to boot !

I appreciate the due diligence the District 10 Bridge uses in sticking to the budget and being fiscally responsible to keep our fiscal position solid and our budgets balanced. Helps make my job easier for sure 😊

We are not planning on an increase in District Dues from the current \$19/year for Primary Active Members and \$26/year for Family Membership.

Anyone interested in being the District Assistant Treasurer – Let me know !!

Please feel free to contact me with any questions. I look forward to seeing you all soon –
Enjoy Winter !!

Respectfully Submitted,

D/LT/C Tracy Gustafson, AP - IN

D-10 Treasurer





District Secretary



Greetings:

Twas the weeks before Christmas, and all through the “Fine” house. ... Not a creature was stirring not even a bunny, cat, dog, fish, gnome, and especially a mouse. However, I can still hear a box elder bug buzzing somewhere.

As I reflect upon the past year, I would like to highlight the following activities supported by the Secretary’s Department:

- Covid prevailed at the beginning of 2021, however we continued to virtually have monthly D10 Bridge meetings.
- A virtual D10 Spring Conference was held where 44+ members participated.
- Recommended corrections to the D10 Bylaws. Thank you, Maury Rice and the D10 Rules Committee for your continued efforts.
- Webmaster Leo Loeb sent many eBlasts which I hope you received and read. Thank you, Leo, for all you have done throughout the past decade.
- The D10 Summer Rendezvous was held at the Duluth Squadron Corn Roast. Many D10 members attended. Thank you, Amy Herstad-Einbu & the Duluth Squadron for hosting.
- We had an in person 2021 Fall Conference which 43+ attended. Thank you, Kris Harmon & St. Paul Squadron for hosting.
- This is the Fourth and final Communicator for 2021.

I have a passion for our organization and will continue to help those who volunteer their time and talents to keep our organization alive. Members of D10 are AWESOME !!!

I would like to thank the D10 Bridge (KevCo, Chad, Wes, Suzanne, Tracy, Dennis, KC, and Don), the D10 Council (Greg, Rebecca, Jim, Dennis, Bob, Amy, Robert, Marie, Jim, Roger, Thad, Kevin, Geoff, and Kris), and would like to especially thank Dave Fine, Leo Loeb, Bernie & Bill Dohr, and Maury Rice, for all your time spent, expertise, and advice, throughout the year. Without you, I could not have successfully accomplished my role as the D10 Secretary.

On that noteFrom my home to yours, I would like to wish You and Yours “A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS & A SAFE, HAPPY, AND HEALTHY 2022”.

Kindest Regards,
D/Lt/C Jennine Fine, S
D10 Secretary





District 10 Virtual 2022 Spring Conference Events

Education Department Workshop Wednesday, March 16 at 7pm

Executive Department Workshop Thursday, March 17 at 7pm

Council Meeting Tuesday, March 22 at 7pm

Administrative Department Workshop Wednesday, March 23 at 7pm

Commanders Workshop Thursday, March 24 at 7pm

***In Person Combined 2022 D10 & Duluth COW
Hosted by Duluth Squadron***

25th - 27th March 2022

at Pier B Resort

800 West Railroad Street, Duluth, MN 55802 (phone 218.300.0408)

Conference Meeting Saturday, March 26 at 9:30 am

Brunch with the Bridge Sunday March 27 at 10:30am

Bridge Meeting Sunday, March 27 at noon



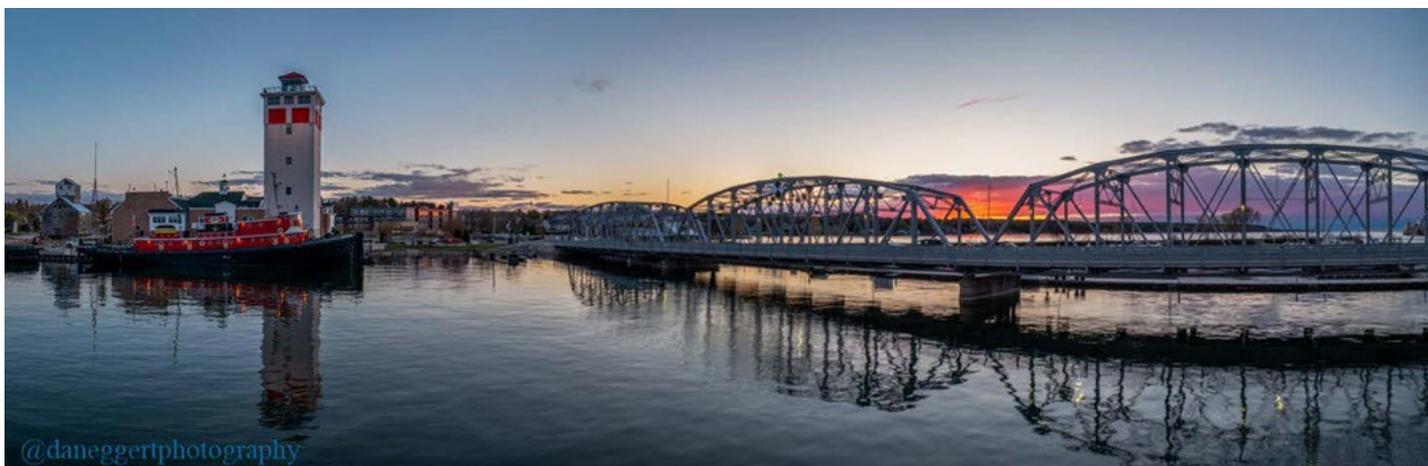
Door County Squadron 

D10 Rendezvous

Hosted by Door County Squadron

9th - 11th September 2022

***Presenting the Jim Kress Maritime Lighthouse Tower at
the Door County Maritime Museum***





Help Wanted !!! – District 10 is looking for people interested in taking on a current role at the District level. Key needs are:

- ⇒ Membership Chair
- ⇒ Assistant Secretary
- ⇒ Publications Editor
- ⇒ Nominating Committee Members — M&M
- ⇒ Nominating Committee Alternate Members — M&M

Feel free to reach out to any member of the Bridge if you want more info. Taking on one of these roles is a great way to see what goes on at the District level and we could really use your help!

D-10 Communicator Staff

District Commander	D/C Kevin Wehrmann, S	kevin@anchorconstructionanddesign.com
District Executive Officer	D/Lt/C Chad Lowney, AP	lowney.chad@gmail.com
District Educational Officer	D/Lt/C Wesley D. Koplitz, JN-CN	wkoplitz@aol.com
District Assistant Educational Officer	D/1st/Lt Dennis Schultz, AP-IN	dave1401wsfm@gmail.com
District Administrative Officer	D/Lt/C Suzanne Carmen, S	lazysuz@comcast.net
District Secretary	D/Lt/C Jennine Fine, S	jennine.fine@gmail.com
District Treasurer	D/Lt/C Tracy Anne Gustafson, AP-IN	gustag13@live.com
Immediate Past District Commander	P/D/C David Fine, N	davefine2@gmail.com
District Webmaster	P/C Rob Gaddes, P	rgaddes@comcast.net
Publications Editor	D/Lt/C Jennine Fine, S	jennine.fine@gmail.com
