

DISTRICT 16 - UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®



Cardinal Points

SPRING 2016



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Commander
D/Lt/C Christine Rasmussen, SN
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I would like to thank all the members of Tacoma Power Squadron for hosting the 2016 Spring Council/Conference in Tacoma.

We had a few challenges and lots of fun. We were honored to have the first woman National Administrative Officer, V/C Mary Paige Abbot SN-IN and her husband Steve attending and installing your 2016-2017 District 16 Bridge. (bonus-R/C Steven Abbott, SN is also an Assistant National Educational Officer.)

Today age and retention are the two key problems and potential solutions to our declining USPS members' growth. We are losing membership on all levels of USPS membership.

I want us to start this year on a positive note! We, the District Bridge, are pledge to continue to "Chart a course for growth!" as P/D/C Jim Jones pledged last year. Thus, 2016/17 is a year to "**Watch us Grow**".

To start with: Look at our new Bridge. They are strong, talented, passionate people who are dedicating themselves to you. The D/16 Bridge is honored to travel to each squadron to help install this year's officers. That is a way we, on the district level, can see what your passions and needs are. But then you must communicate with us. Open up—we will listen. When you go to the Educational Seminar and the June D/16 Rendezvous please tell us your goals for improvements and brag about your successes.



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Our new 2016-2017 D16 bridge officers

Continued on next page

National's marketing team says our primary membership age goal is 45 year olds and up. That doesn't mean we can't take any age we can get. And we need to get them all. Membership and membership retention needs are a primary goal for all our squadrons. It's not just the Education programs that can get us new members and save lives. Look at the results that happen with people who do Vessel Safety Checks. Or, people who do Chart corrections. This is one way the public learns about the United States Power Squadrons® and D/16. Also, money and lives are being saved by doing this work. Who else is doing the significant work and labor hours in these vital areas, that we do! No one.

This year the Bridge is working on a few new projects: such as a meeting programs source list and combining district committees to work on joint projects, fixing some communication problems: by listening and talking monthly and hopefully attending some of your meetings and social events, and finally, getting rid of a few things that haven't worked for a long time.

Next Fall's Conference, October 28-29, will largely deal with membership ideas, problems and solutions for your specific squadrons. We are hoping to have a L103 workshop as well.

I am looking forward to being your District Commander this year. With your help it will be a productive, interesting and successful year. **"Watch us Grow"**.



Executive Officer

D/Lt/C Matt Lombardi, P

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I have recently returned from a very productive National Conference and Change of Watch in Orlando. D16 was well represented there and it was great to see so many friendly faces so far from home. We came together with about 700 members from all over the country, and there is much happening to address future growth of the United States Power Squadrons. For starters, energies are focused on expanding our

marketing reach, development of strategic partnerships, brand recognition and understanding perception of the brand. We are also looking at ways to appeal to several yet to be tapped demographics that can benefit from our organization and its products. It's only natural that rumors will surface during this process, because of partial information circulating or strong opinion whenever potential changes are being discussed. I would like to encourage all of our squadrons, to resist unnecessary emotions and look to us at district to deliver straight forward and complete information as we receive it. The information we pass on to you will be based on actual decisions that are being considered for your input or those that have been accepted by National as needing introduction to your squadron. I know I speak for every member of the District 16 Bridge when I say that excellent communications and proactive assistance is our mission this year.

We just wrapped up an outstanding Spring Council and Conference in Tacoma, where much of the above information became discussion with all of our squadron's attendees. I have also heard many great compliments about the quality of the breakout sessions at the conference. It seems like we are off to a great start this year, with the sharing of best practices by several of our successful squadrons. Thank you Tacoma for hosting the conference and for all your hard work! You are a great team and worked beautifully together to make your D/C and her new bridge feel welcome and proud.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible during the next month and a half of Change of Watch celebrations. You can count on our presence throughout the year, an aggressive response whenever you call upon us for assistance and as I said before, excellent communications and follow through. I thank you all for your support and encouragement as your 2016 DXO and I'm humbled by your assistance in making the Pacific Northwest a noticeably educated boating community.

In closing I'm re-publishing a favorite boating inspired piece that I wrote, as a tribute to our new Chief Commander Louis Ojeda, SN who hails from our Puerto Rico District. Along with his outstanding history of dedication to USPS, he is likely to bring lots of Island fun and easy going attitude to the Squadron's. Good watch to you sir!



Photo credit: Matthew Lombardi – Friday Harbor, San Juan Island, WA

The Village

By: D/Lt/C Matthew Lombardi, P
D16

I live in the village of West Perfect on the isle of Oh My God. People are very happy here and as they joyfully go about their daily busy work, they are sure that there are likely to be bumps in the road and an occasional dark cloud to hide the sunshine. There seems to be a general feeling of calm here, as we also know that we can control the bumps in the road by adjusting our speed and the dark clouds will soon blow away.

We have strong necks here in West Perfect because we constantly move them in all directions. We often look down to see the sea creatures go by and to avoid those inevitable bumps in the road, we look left and right in never ending awe of the scenery that seems to change with the days light, we look behind us often to smile at our neighbors as they pass by and wave and most importantly we look up constantly for so many reasons.

Just over there on the mainland live the masses. Although it is a diverse place, the dominant two tribes are the Often and the Always Miserable. They seem to run around frequently getting little done and talk daily of their highest holiday called "Weekend". Each day they wake up glad that yesterday is gone and hoping today brings a flawless life. They are always surprised by the bumps in the road and when the dark cloud that blew in from West Perfect arrives, it sparks gloom and evokes tribal chants of "Friday, Friday, Friday."

They have weak necks over there as they are usually only looking forward to tomorrow and an occasional slight twist up to see if it's five on the clock yet. Although the bridge over to West Perfect is toll free, the tribes rarely cross over because they are perfectly comfortable being lost in their familiar routines.

I call over to them whenever I see one on their shores, in hopes that they will come to West Perfect and share it with us.



Administration Officer
Mahmoud Abdel-Monem, SN
ao@uspsd16.org

Now that the Change of Watch is behind us, the incoming bridge officers are busy carrying out their responsibilities. My first and probably the most challenging task as the incoming Administrative Officer is to organize the Annual District Rendezvous in Poulsbo. I am told that having fun has been the specialty of the 39 District Rendezvous. So a high priority for me is to make sure everyone

will have lots of fun during this year's Rendezvous.

Mark your calendar, the District's 40th Rendezvous is scheduled for June 24-25, 2016 in Poulsbo. Watch for updates and registration forms on www.uspad16.org and in your squadron's newsletter.

On Friday evening, the Docktail party is planned as "A Tour of American Cuisine". It will challenge the imagination of each Squadron to select their favorite regional American cuisine. Prepare your favorite hors d'oeuvres and treats from your selected region to share with other participants.

The Opening Ceremonies will be held on Saturday morning. The Flare Shoot and Fire Extinguisher Demo will follow. A few breakout sessions and seminars will be available including Sticks and Strings, Optimizing your Website, and Cooperative Charting.

The theme for the early afternoon is "Extending Our Reach". The purpose of this segment of the Rendezvous is to provide Squadrons the opportunity to share their experiences with enhancing their community involvement. Community involvement is likely to improve our recruitment and retention programs. Last year, participation by squadrons in the Sea Skills experience was very successful. We hope you will use the same strategy for your participation. The only difference is that you will focus on your community involvement, recruitment and retention as topics of your presentation.

Saturday evening is planned to be a fun filled event. As in previous years we will be the guests of the Sons of Norway. The evening will start with the Social Hour which will be followed by the catered dinner. A Silent Auction will be available throughout the evening. Stay on after dinner for prize awards and entertainment.

Dock E in the Poulsbo Marina is reserved for June 24-25. The Dock accommodates approximately 100 boats. Also, thirty rooms in the Guesthouse International Inn & Suites are reserved for our members. I hope you will plan in participating in this year's Rendezvous. You will have fun and share valuable experiences.



Education Officer
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Ahoy, Shipmates

There's an old Chinese curse that says: "May you live in interesting times". Well, with respect to our education (and politics!) we do indeed live in interesting times.

NATIONAL MEETING, Orlando Florida

The annual meeting in mid-February included an all-day session for education. This meeting starts at 0800 and continues to 1700 with a 90 minute lunch break. Here are the highlights:

E-Books. This is planned initially for the Seamanship book, and should be ready for beta test soon. Squadrons teaching Seamanship can volunteer for the beta test by contacting national at the Outreach Committee, chair R.C William J. McManimen. When fully implemented, SEOs can order E-books online. Expected cost is the same, but there is no postage. Students will get a unique password from the SEO to download the book to their chosen device which includes tablets. If a SEO requests too many

passwords, they expire in 30 days, so there no need to return unused books for credit. Students will have the option to print out any E-Book if they want hardcopy. National's plan is to replace all their printed books with E-Books, partly to avoid expensive inventory problems, partly to keep a course current without those annoying errata updates. This plan will take some years to complete.

Seamanship Seminars: After the current modest inventory of Seamanship books sell out, the Seamanship book will be broken into 6-8 seminars. Essentially, the old Seamanship chapters like Chapter 5 for Rules of the Road will then be the Rules of the Road seminar. Similarly, Chapter 6 will be the Anchoring seminar, and Chapter 7 the Emergencies on Board seminar. Each of the seminars is currently under revision. I created this idea three years ago and National has agreed to adopt it for Seamanship first. I'm already testing this concept in Bellingham with some success. Eventually you will be able to teach all the seminars in a row, weekly, just like the old class, or space them out over time. The idea may expand into other classes as well.

POTW. This on the water program is getting a big makeover. It was suggested in Orlando that the United States Coast Guard was concerned we were teaching what amounts to a commercial course without being licensed captains. That is a false rumor. However, National has decided to teach the POTW course FREE TO MEMBERS, or for \$40 to \$80 (depends on squadron markup) to non-members. Students can join your squadron to avoid the non-member cost, so POTW becomes an excellent recruiting tool. POTW will have a new textbook in one or two weeks after which more information should be available online.

EDUCATION CONFERENCE (April 30, Coast Hotel, Bellevue)

Please come to Bellevue on Saturday, April 30 for the latest education news, breakouts to help squadrons fill and teach more classes, and an instructor recertification class. To register, go to: [www.uspsd16sg.org/calendar/education seminar info.pdf](http://www.uspsd16sg.org/calendar/education%20seminar%20info.pdf) or see form on page 18.

ROEBER AWARD

Our smallest squadron won the Roeber Award. Again! They also won last year. This award is given to the squadron with the highest percentage of students who PASS an advanced or elective class compared to squadron size. ABC classes and seminars are not counted, and neither are students who do not pass a class exam. This award may never return to the lower 48 until North Star runs out of classes to teach. Below is a tally of results, for 2015.

2015	Members Dec 31	Students Passed	%
North Star	25	19	76%
Skagit Bay	52	30	58%
North Olympic	146	57	39%
Agate Pass	68	24	35%
Deception Pass	94	25	27%
Bellevue	245	64	26%
Bellingham	183	43	23%
Everett	98	22	22%
Spokane	54	12	22%
Point Wilson	46	10	22%
Tacoma	141	26	18%
Seattle	245	39	16%
Friday Harbor	120	18	15%
Poverty Bay	151	20	13%
Bremerton	71	5	7%
Olympia	33	0	0%
TOTALS & MEAN	1772	414	23%

Members that **passed** Advanced or Elective classes in 2015, Jan 01 – Dec 31, from HQ-800



SECRETARY
 Annette Ferguson, P
newfy03@gmail.com

As a “new kid” on the District 16 Bridge, I want to greet each of you and start to get to know you. As you read your edition of Cardinal Points, I will have been District Secretary for over a month.

I, like many of you in the squadrons, am getting acquainted with my new role and duties. I can expect surprises and questions. Like you, I have people to go to within our district to ask a question or figure out how to correct something I did not do “by the book.” One of my goals, which is also a district goal, is to be a resource for the secretaries in our squadrons. I will be reaching out to each of you to determine if there is anything I can do to help. If you have a question or concern, let me know. I may not have the answer, but I will find the answer and get back to you in a timely manner.

As secretaries, we each have departments that we support. Notice I used the word “support.” Encourage your department chairs. Encourage your members to write articles for your newsletter and submit articles to the district newsletter Cardinal Points. Share the squadron’s successes and lessons learned from taking on difficult tasks. When you receive your digital copy of Cardinal Points, email it to your membership. This is a communication tool that can help each member in our district know about district events and have a connection with the district.

Lastly, as the year moves forward... have fun in your role, in your squadron and in the events that are planned by District 16. One of those events is our District 16 rendezvous at Poulsbo in June. Stay tuned for information about that event. It promises to be a weekend of fun and fellowship! See you there.

Getting the Word Out!

On a cold Saturday in January, the Everett Sail and Power Squadron (ESPS) installed 14 information boxes at each of the dock entrances at the Port of Everett Marina. The Everett Marina is home to the largest public marina on the West Coast with 2,300 slips. Enclosed in each box was the tri-fold that was designed by the United States Power Squadrons Marketing Department with ESPS contact information included.

The installation of the information boxes is the most recent step of the on-going strategic plan to increase the visibility of the United States Power Squadrons and ESPS at the marina. With increased awareness comes the opportunity to provide quality educational activities with the end result being skilled boaters on the waters of Puget Sound.



**JP/C Jim West, JN and
 Lt Frank Havens, AP
 Installing the Information
 Boxes at the Port of Everett
 Marina**

Annual Education Conference in Bellevue.

Saturday 30 April 2016 brings the District 16 Education Conference to the Coast Hotel 625 116th Ave. NE Bellevue, Washington 98004. *See signup sheet elsewhere in this edition.*

This year's lineup will include sessions on customizing Power Point presentations, as well as converting class instruction charts to local waters. Chapman Award winning instructors will present teaching techniques guaranteed to perk up adult education. Also included is a Radar seminar created by one of our own instructors. A bit lost with what is required in the on the water segment of education? All will be explained.

Instructors who haven't recertified in the last 4 years will have the opportunity to do so.

Whether you teach or would like to this conference is an excellent opportunity to stick your toe in the water. There isn't a squadron in the district that couldn't use additional instructors.

Make a difference contact Trudy Brown of the Bellevue squadron (one of the nicest people you could meet) and sign on for the day. Contact Trudy Brown for lunch choice trudyb36@outlook.com

Conference Agenda:

0830-0900 Registration

0900-0920 Flag salute, Invocation, Commander's opening comments.

0920-0945 DEO's National meeting report and presentation- 10 ways to fill a classroom.

0945-1015 BOC Requirements, Bob Anderson- There are some changes.

1015-1025 Instructor Crisis, Rick Edel

1025-1035 Reorganize into break out groups

1035- 1200 choose a presentation.

1. What does it take to produce a seminar? Ron Davidson will show us his Radar Seminar. Main meeting room
2. Customize your presentation slides. Rick Edel will show and tell, bring your laptop. Lunch area.
3. Convert your ABC charts into local waters. Jim West Everett SEO will explore the possibilities. Separate break out room.

1200-1300 Lunch Speaker Graham Hunter, Humor the Essential Ingredient.

1300-1430 choose a presentation

1. Recertification. Chapman Award winners Ann Einboden and Bill Ray how to bring class to the room. Main meeting room.
2. Customizing Class slides. Rick Edel, for those who missed it in the morning or want to press on. Laptop hands on adventure. Lunch area.
3. Data Base 2000. Bob Anderson walks you through this indispensable tool. Bring your laptop so you can discover the practical applications. Separate breakout room.

1430-1500 Commander's closing remarks and any items we may have missed. Main meeting room.

We will be offering the Leadership Development Seminar 103 to those interested in the very near future.



Vessel Safety Chair

John Chen, AP-IN

Breezy-spirit@Q.com

2015 VSC status Report

Great thanks to all the D16 Vessel Examiners; 2015 was a productive year for D16 VEs. We had an increase of more than 200 VSCs performed over 2014. You are all very much appreciated. If you think some of your other squadron members would make a good VE, let me know and we can get them

started. It is a fun way to serve the local boating community, and a great way to look into the deep in-nards of many interesting boats.

New way for local boaters to request a VSC

Currently, if local boaters want a VSC, they have to navigate to USPS.ORG, and click down a number of webpages to get to the "Request a VSC" page. With the help of our D16 webmaster Richard Michels, the nwboatertraining.com website will now have a new VSC tab. When clicked, it will display an email list of local D16 Squadron VSC Chairs. We think this will simplify the process of obtaining a VSC. Let me know how this works out for your squadron.

Participate in the annual PFD Ready-Set-WearIt-Inflate event

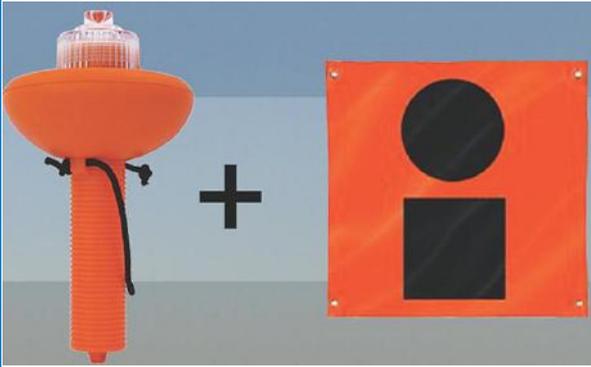
To promote boating safety, the National Safe Boating Council hosts an annual PFD Ready-Set-WearIt-Inflate event. In 2015, there were 257 events worldwide, with 10,917 participants, and 65 dogs. This year, the event will be on Saturday 21 May. Your local squadron may be participating in this event in your area, maybe at a yacht club or marina. During this event, you will learn about your PFD and how to purchase the right PFD for you and your family. If your PFD is an inflatable unit, you will learn how to annually maintain, test, service, and repack a PFD. So find out where your local event will be held, and take you and your family for a great learning experience.

Sirius LED SOS Distress Light (see photo)

I have been asked by a number of you about the new Sirius Floating LED SOS Distress Light, and whether this unit complies with USCG's carriage requirements for Electric Distress Lights. Also, since most of us NW boaters will frequently cruise in Canadian waters, if this unit also complies with CCG requirements.

First, regarding USCG. This unit does comply with USCG 46 CFR 161.013, and if the vessel also carries a daytime distress flag, this light and flag can replace the USCG's carriage requirement for day/night flares. Now, for Canadian CG. This unit does not comply with CCG's carriage requirement. However, the CCG's regulation does not apply to non-residents who operate their pleasure craft in Canadian waters for less than 45 consecutive days. The Canadian regulation states that any foreign pleasure vessel, registered or licensed in their home country, needs to comply with the equipment requirements of the home country. So, if you are planning to go to Canada in your US registered vessel, with this LED distress light plus a daytime distress flag, you are good to go.

Here are a few things to remember. If you have a Sirius LED SOS light and day flag, you now comply with the USCG requirements for distress signals. Please do remember that you should always have multiple methods to signal distress and get attention from other boaters or non-boaters alike. The pyrotechnic flares do burn very brightly and provide smoke; but they also drip hot slag and ash, do not burn very long, and expire in 42 months (see printed expiration date on side of flares). The Sirius LED SOS light is only effective at night, but it will stay lit for 6 hours at peak intensity, with total illumination of up to 60 hours, and it never expires, as long as you check and replace the batteries regularly.



Sirius LED SOS Distress Light

Some of you have also asked me about buying these LED SOS Distress Lights, where to buy them and what is the best price. Being a member of USPS, you are in the right place to get the best price, which is 25% discount plus shipping, from Weems & Plath. I have sent the ordering instructions to your Squadron VSC Chair. Contact him/her to let them know, and he/she will consolidate all of the orders from your squadron, or combine multiple squadrons' requests, to

minimize the shipping cost. The maximum number of lights per case is 16 units, plus \$30 shipping, and no tax. So the price of each unit will end up to be around \$77 each, including shipping.

If any of you have other questions related to Safety or VSCs, please contact you Vessel Safety Inspectors. Have a great summer cruising season, and stay safe on the water.



D16 Webmaster

Richard Michels

webmaster@uspsd16.org

District 16 Website

A password is required to access the D16 Roster and Cardinal Points newsletter, which are available on the D16 website under the 'D16 Qik Pik' menu item. The password was given out at the 2016 Spring Conference. In case you didn't obtain it from the conference, please email me at webmaster@uspsd16.org and I'll send it to

you. The password is changed once a year and will not change again in 2016.

Squadron rosters and a District roster is also available on the National www.usps.org website.

To access these rosters, log in as a USPS member; then click on the 'Resources' tab and select the 'Information Center' menu item. Once on the Information Center page, look for an icon with (3) horizontal bars in the upper left hand corner of the navigation bar. Clicking on that icon will drop down another menu, where you can click on 'My Stuff'. My Stuff then gives the option of producing various rosters as well as additional information.

National is working on squadron level website templates that can give a squadron an internet presence for those squadrons which don't have the resources to program and/or maintain their own website. It is very simple for a squadron to use the squadron template. If you would like to see what your squadron website would look like using the template, email me at webmaster@uspsd16.org and I'll send you instructions. If you decide to use the template, the setup procedure is very simple. A squadron can also easily opt out of using the template at a later date.

Note that the NWBT website is a very robust website and updates are made to the displayed courses once a day at 0340, 7 days a week. Recently it appeared that the website was not displaying courses correctly; but that was due to the fact that there was a fiber optic cable break on the East Coast breaking the link between NWBT and the National server.

All members are encouraged to navigate the D16 website and NWBT to see the range of available useful information.

As always, if you have any thoughts concerning the websites, don't hesitate to email the webmaster.



Treasurer

D /Lt/XC Inez Schwartz, JN
treasurer@uspsd16.org

ATTENTION SQUADRON TREASURERS

UPDATE ON CHANGES TO EDUCATIONAL FUND PROCEDURES FOR SQUADRON HONOR ROLL STATUS

The purpose of the United States Power Squadrons (USPS) Educational Fund (EdFund) is to promote the development and the furtherance of educational programs and techniques in boating, seamanship, navigation, engine maintenance, marine electronic equipment, sailing, weather, boating safety and other marine activities by issuing grants.

All contributions to the fund are fully deductible from income, gift and estate taxes.

Many years ago the Trustees of the Educational Fund established a program through which USPS squadrons could make voluntary contributions in the amount of one dollar (or more) per active squadron member, and thus qualify for inclusion in the EdFund Honor Roll for that year. With the advent of the HQAB billing process in the last decade, that process was modified so that squadrons could bill each of the squadron members a dollar, with the dollar assessments going directly to the EdFund. This process is optional and is not used by all squadrons.

Automated HQ billing made it easy for squadrons to make the Honor Roll. It was simply added on as "Other" on individual member's annual billing and distributed directly to the EdFund.

It was thought at the time to be a great idea -- easier for the squadrons, easier for the EdFund. Really a win-win.

Actual experience has proven to be otherwise:

- Some squadron treasurers are confused by the process.
 - Many life members are annoyed when they receive a bill for an EdFund contribution of a dollar.
 - Other members don't make the one dollar payment listed on their dues bill.
 - The EdFund doesn't receive the full amount of the contributions that it should.
 - The process has become an administrative headache for squadron treasurers and for the EdFund.
- The HQAB process simply hasn't worked as was desired for EdFund contributions.

Perhaps worse from the perspective of the EdFund Trustees, what were always intended to be voluntary contributions from squadrons to support the Educational Fund are now viewed by some squadron members as pernicious mandatory assessments. The EdFund Trustees had never intended that, and it is simply the wrong karma for this program.

Accordingly, the EdFund Trustees are taking steps to simplify the squadron Honor Roll process. Squadrons will be asked to provide a single payment from the squadron treasurer (or a designated squadron member) by check or credit card in order to participate in the Honor Roll program.

Changes being implemented 1 April, 2016

HQ will continue to include contributions designated for the EdFund and process automated dues billing according the listing on file for each squadron's dues structure. This form is provided by the Squadron Treasurer to USPS Headquarters by March 20th each year for dues beginning June 1st of that year.

From April 1, 2016 forward, all contributions for the EdFund collected by HQ in conjunction with member dues will be sent to the member's squadron and not to the EdFund. This assures that EdFund payments designated by members are routed to squadron accounts so the funds will then be available for squadrons to make a lump-sum contribution to the EdFund for Honor Roll participation.

On or about April 15, 2016 the EdFund will post a new spreadsheet on the EdFund web page. It will be an expanded table of the current one shown below indicating the number of active members as of December 1, 2015. Columns 1 and 2 are the same. Column 3 will show amounts HQ has already transferred to the EdFund prior to April 1st in conjunction with dues payments. Column 4 will be the net remaining for a squadron contribution to qualify the squadron for Honor Roll status in 2016.

This contribution should be received by the EdFund prior to November 30, 2016. The payment can be made by credit card on the EdFund web page at "Make a Contribution"; or by following the link http://www.usps.org/dues/donation_processa_ed.php; or by check mailed to:

USPS Educational Fund
PO Box 30423
Raleigh, NC 27622

DISTRICT 16 12/1/2015	
SQUADRON	TOTAL ACTIVE
Agate Pass Sail	70
Bellevue Sail	238
Bellingham Sail	189
Bremerton Sail	69
Deception Pass	94
Everett Sail	94
Friday Harbor	113
North Olympic	142
North Star Sail	25
Olympia Sail	34
Point Wilson	45
Poverty Bay Sail	148
Seattle Sail	242
Skagit Bay Sail	50
Spokane Sail	54
Tacoma	138
DISTRICT 16	1745

Please identify the contribution as the Honor Roll contribution for the squadron.

Questions?

If you have questions about the process or intent of these changes or the EdFund in general, please contact *Fred Mangelsdorf, Chairman of the Trustees of the EdFund* at femangelsd@aol.com or 845-542-3180.

If you have questions about the financial particulars regarding monies moving to your squadron account, please contact Linda Fuller Morris at HQ: fullerl@hq.usps.org or x-217 at 888-367-8777.

Thanks

Thanks to all squadrons for your continuing support of the USPS Educational Fund and for your forbearance as the transition is made to the new system for Honor Roll contributions.

Feel free to also contact your District Treasurer – D/Lt/C Inez Schwartz, JN at treasurer@uspsd16.org or 360 271-6184 for clarification on the new process. For those squadrons who do not have a contribution to the EdFund added to their dues structure, you can continue to participate in the EdFund Honor Roll in the same manner as you have in the past.

2016 Seattle Boat Show

By Al Keim

We pause now to reflect as the setting sun sinks slowly in the west. Just how did the 2016 Seattle Boat Show benefit us? Are the multitudes clamoring at the gates seeking advanced boater knowledge? Will squadron ranks swell to unprecedented levels? In an attempt to penetrate the swirling mists shrouding this annual venture let us set sail on the sea of known facts.

First we shall consider the cost: Five hundred dollars is the ante up fee required to join the organization that puts on the show (Northwest Marine Trade Organization). One thousand dollars leases us 100 square feet for the show's duration. This year we displayed the Boating Safety Virtual Trainer (BSVT) affectionately and here for the first time called "Buzz". A brief description of what this computer driven bank of three television (TV) screens does would be appropriate here. Imagine driving a boat on TV. Well that what Buzz does. There is a wheel and throttle combined with all sorts of scenarios that can keep you engaged and absorbed for an extended period. Back to cost. Buzz's UPS ticket from his lair in North Carolina is three hundred dollars –round trip. Ignoring the upgrade to curly fries eighteen hundred dollars pretty much covers the whole shebang.

Show statistics: Last year in excess of fifty thousand people attended the show. This year we had three hundred and thirty seven spend all the time they desired exploring the ways of safe boating, eighty five of who were women. Fifty seven (the number of navigation stars and varieties of Heinz products) were between the ages of zero and twelve. Thirty two were between thirteen and eighteen. Fifty were between nineteen and thirty. Eighty two were between thirty and fifty. And of course the demographic to which the majority of us belong had one hundred and sixteen representatives.

As to boating experience one hundred and fifteen had between zero and two years. Sixty seven had two to 10 years and one hundred and fifty five had ten plus years.

Lastly our data collected at the behest of the United States Coast Guard revealed that two hundred and sixty eight had power boats, seventy six sailing vessels and 36 skimmed the surly seas in human powered craft. For those of you keeping score at home some people have more than one boat. And for those wondering why the Coast Guard wants to know... they paid for the machine. That's right another example of big government run amok. As any Kansan can tell you there is little need for boating safety.

You may at this point be asking "Pray tell - what does it all mean?" Answers to these imponderable questions are above my pay grade but let us consider the alternative. Had District 16 not been at the show 337 people would not have interacted with our one grumpy and twenty three pleasant members. Brochures elucidating who we are and where we may be found would not be in the hands of boaters and would be boaters. In short we would have bupkis. Short of impressment this is how we spread the word about boating's best kept secret.

A Silent Killer: Carbon Monoxide

By: Lt Frank Havens, AP, General Safety Officer, Everett Sail and Power Squadron

Spring is upon us. Have you checked your equipment and are you ready? An important piece of equipment to have is a CO (carbon monoxide) detector. Unlike CO₂ (carbon dioxide) which we exhale and plants need for photosynthesis, carbon monoxide has caused numerous deaths. Recently, two more deaths due to carbon monoxide poisoning were just reported on a moored boat in Tasmania off the coast of Australia.

Carbon monoxide poisoning is a serious subject and not one to disregard even if you have a diesel. Carbon monoxide is a component of exhaust gases - if you can smell exhaust then CO is present. Carbon monoxide is also produced when propane, charcoal, or oil burns to power onboard appliances such as a stove, grill, hot water heater or generator. A gasoline engine emits 10,000 to 100,000 ppm (parts per million) of carbon monoxide whereas a diesel emits 1000 ppm. For healthy adults CO becomes toxic when it reaches a level higher than 35 ppm with continuous exposure over an eight hour period. Medium exposure (a CO level between 200 ppm to 800 ppm) will produce dizziness, drowsiness and vomiting in as little as 1 hour. This level of exposure is deemed to be life threatening after three hours. Extreme exposure (a CO level of 800 ppm and higher) will result in unconsciousness, brain damage and death in as little as a few minutes. OSHA guidelines state that the maximum exposure over an eight hour time period is 35 ppm.

Here is what you can do to help prevent a CO poisoning event on your boat;

- Make sure you know all exhaust outlet locations and confirm they are not obstructed
- Confirm that water flows from the exhaust outlet when motors or generators are running
- Educate all passengers about the symptoms of CO poisoning and where CO may accumulate
- Test the operation of each CO detector for proper functioning by pressing the test button
- Open hatches or canvas enclosures if CO accumulation is suspected
- When rafted to another boat, ensure that both boats are able to ventilate their exhaust away from themselves and each other
- Avoid swim platforms, or swimming, around or near a boat when the engine is running
- Periodically examine the exhaust fixtures on your boat to be certain of proper performance
- Always maintain your boat's engine and exhaust system to reduce the risk of CO buildup

WHAT IS EXPO ALL ABOUT?

By: Cdr Linda Martin, AP

It all started about four months ago during a phone conversation with Jane Brandenstein (wife of the then National Educational Officer, Bob Brandenstein) as to the status of the **Boating Safety 4 Kids 2-hour Seminar**. *The project that took SEO, Lt/C Joellyn Jackson, S and I nearly a year to complete, the project that had been sent to National for approval in September. Jane recommended that since I was planning to come to the USPS Annual Meeting in Orlando in February, that I should sign up for a booth at EXPO. EXPO is kind of like the Boat Show. Lots of booths of commercial boating related products as well as districts and squadrons wanting to share what they are doing.*

So, why not? After conferring with Cdr Annette Ferguson, P, we decided it was a good idea and we should represent District 16 in the booth, not just Everett. The district kicked in the monies to pay for the booth and the printing of 400 bookmarks. Well, that is where P/R/C Chris Brown, SN comes in. He has lots of experience setting up booths at the Boat Show and gave me many suggestions to make the booth attractive with photos and memorable by passing out bookmarks to the passersby.

So off Mike and I go to the USPS Annual Meeting in the truck loaded down with lots of stuff. The night before EXPO we hauled boxes of items to the booth. Annette and her husband, Dan, and my husband, Mike and I set-up a very attractive booth, and then went to dinner.

Friday, February 19 I got up, dressed as PFD Seagull, and walked the long way from our room at the Rosen Centre to the EXPO location. It takes nearly 10 minutes to get there, in the same building. A lady walked passed me, looked at my costume and said sarcastically, "Aren't you lucky?" And boy, did I want to crawl into a hole. But I didn't, and very glad I didn't let her comment discourage me.

I want to thank Dan, Annette and Mike for their help working the both with the seagull and explaining how the **Boating Safety 4 Kids 2-hour Seminar** works, *giving out bookmarks and getting contact information. We also sold some PFD Puzzle Storybooks.*



The Booth



Dan, Mike, Annette and Linda



Jane Brandenstein

We had conversations with people from Wisconsin, New York, Ohio, North Carolina, Alabama, Florida, Texas, Missouri, Michigan, Indiana, and Louisiana. These members have the opportunity to teach children to be safe on the water, but don't have the lessons to teach them. They were excited to know that something is in-the-works to meet their needs.

At the end of the day we gave out 175 bookmarks, got 19 names and email addresses, sold 25 PFD Puzzle Storybooks, but most of all we had delightful conversations with members all over the USA. I even met the new National Educational Officer, Craig Frasier and discussed the project.

But the cool part was when I got home two weeks later and members from Cape Fear Squadron in North Carolina and Arrowhead Squadron in California called to get more information regarding the **Boating Safety 4 Kids 2-hour Seminar** because someone had given them a bookmark and were told, "Call Linda Martin."

Oh, one last comment that made my day. At the very end of my six-hour shift in the booth, a man from a commercial booth came over and complimented me for staying in costume and character all day. Well, YES, I did!!

This story isn't over yet, and I will keep you posted.

PS If you have never been to a USPS National Meeting, you should plan to go. You meet so many neat people from all over the USA and learn a lot of really cool stuff. ***I mean REALLY COOL PEOPLE AND REALLY COOL STUFF!!!***



2016 USPS Youth Poster Contest

The theme for the 2016 USPS Youth Poster Contest is:
"Make it Personal! It's Your Life... It's Your Lifejacket!"



The USPS Youth Poster Contest Awards are given to promote youth appreciation of water safety and fun boating. The contest is open to all children ages 6 - 14. Awards are given in three age groups, 6 - 8 years, 9 - 11 years, and 12 - 14 years. Squadrons are asked to encourage youths to enter this contest. Youth entrants need not be members of USPS.

Deadline for Entries:

Entries from Squadrons in District 16 should be entered in the district competition at the Fall Conference to be held in Bellingham, Washington on October 21 - 23, 2016. Winners at the district level will be awarded cash prizes and will be entered in the national competition at the USPS Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida on February 19 - 26, 2017. At the national competition, first place winners receive \$150, second place winners receive \$100, and third place winners receive \$75.

You will find the guidelines, rules and poster submission forms at:
<https://www.usps.org/national/membership/youth/poster.htm>

If you have any questions, or need further information, please contact Kathy Sherrick, Chair, Youth Poster Contest at (509) 991-7104 or sherrick.kathy@gmail.com.

Memories Revisited

By P/D/C Barbara Erickson, JN

It was a flash-back when we landed in Orlando for the 2016 USPS Annual Meeting. The shuttle from the airport brought us to the Rosen Centre. It looked the same, yet different. The surroundings had changed – International Drive had the same trolleys, same trolley routes, but the businesses along the route had really changed. The Peabody Hotel was gone. No more mallard duck waddling through its doors.

Steve and I decided to revisit International Drive and maybe run into a Starbucks, and what did we find? The ABC store! It looked quite different from what I remembered years ago, but the name was still the same.



A flood of memories came back, sort of. Back around the 2005-2006 timeframe, Jean Miller, Kari Black, and I all found ourselves in Orlando for the Annual Meeting. We enjoyed ourselves immensely sipping these “lotta coladas.” They came in many flavors, but in one standard size – ginormous! Sun, warm weather, good friends, what more could a girl want! (We were all girls back then.)

As the day wore on, our district decided on gathering for some social time. Home-made “lotta coladas” seemed to be the perfect thing. “Poverty Bay” Bob Miller (to distinguish him from Bellevue’s Bob Miller) offered that if we had a blender and fixings, he could make them up. Couldn’t pass up that offer!

So Bob and I decide to take a walk down International Drive to find an adult beverage store and a blender. The hotel told us we would find everything we needed along International Drive. Off we went for a long walk in the hot sun. We found the adult beverages needed in the ABC store; (this is what triggered this story) and after more searching, the blender. We took the trolley home.

Bob made excellent “lotta coladas” that night. And we had a lotta coladas, if memory serves. But Bob, being much wiser, brought a gas operated blender to serve “lotta coladas” at that year’s district rendezvous! I still have the original blender in my garage. Time for a “lotta colada” anyone?

If you read this article email co@uspsd16.org to be entered into a drawing at D/16 Rendezvous.

Marketing/Membership Breakout Session Saturday, 19 March 2016

D/C Jim Jones, SN, organized an impromptu break-out session featuring V/C Mary Paige Abbott, SN, National Administrative Officer, to talk about Membership and Marketing. Stf/C Susan Darcy, JN, Leadership Development trainer and Stf/C Barbara Erickson, JN, and Cdr Annette Ferguson, P, District Marketing TEAM members were present along with a good number of district members. This is a recap of the open mic meeting.

V/C Mary Paige Abbott, SN, lead off with this concern her squadron, Sanibel-Captiva, was having. They thought they weren't having fun anymore. They were holding their normal system of events – 3rd Tuesday dinner meeting (attendance drop).

RESPONSE: Added events from end of month to the 1st of the month that included 1) Potluck picnics on the Causeway – no reservations; open to everyone; drop in event, 2) Luncheon gatherings were added – increased by 18 to 25 people, and 3) Added Happy Hours/Social Hours – increased participation by 25 or more

Question asked about if squadrons were using the 18 month membership promotion.

RESPONSE: Most squadrons are not using it as they found it not successful. Cdr Sandy Thomas, AP, told how at North Olympic, she sells the class – “do I have a deal for you, you if join now, I'll give you 18 months of membership for the price of 12 months.” Great success – agreement that the style and personality of the “seller” is most helpful.

North Olympic, Bellingham, Skagit Bay, Agate Pass, Seattle, Tacoma do not require ABC3 to join USPS. Most who take class only want the WA State Boating Card. Suggestions by Mary Paige: 1) Ask if they want to donate to a 501c3 organization. Dues are tax deductible, less the \$10 for the Ensign. Remind membership of this too, 2) Invite them to events taking place while the class is being held, and 3) Movie event “The Finest Hour” identify all the things done wrong.

How do you retain members?

RESPONSE:

- Mini Sea Skills – variety of squadron offerings and fun to be had
- Free mini seminar – once a month, 41 people attended
- Commander meets everyone at the door & knows their name
- Women's group – women boaters teaching women includes luncheon held four times a year (North Olympic)
- All events publicized in the paper (Everett)
- Wal-Mart contacted them to participate in their Safety Expo in their parking lot (Sanibel-Captiva)
- “2 quarts of soda” – hold an event and ask people to bring something simple
- Birthdays – hosts/hostesses are those who have birthdays prior month/quarter
- Mentoring program
- “Newbie” cruise – Sucia Island and Deer Harbor (Bellingham)
- Boating buddies
- Evening cruise with BBQ to short destinations
- Land rendezvous with potluck
- Lunch cruises to restaurants on the water (Sanibel-Captiva)
- Picnic with sister CPS squadrons (Bellingham)

Ways to market your squadron

- Newspaper (free & paid ads)
- Radio PSA (Public Service Announcements)
- Posters/flyers along with Social Media – take advantage of Facebook. Post your class schedule; Craig’s list has been tried
- Vessel Safety Checks – carry an application; source for membership
- Constant Contact is being reviewed by national
- iConstant another program being reviewed
- WARNING: Possible limitation to your email list when sending out using DB2000 email. National is looking into this, but you should check to see if everyone in your squadron is receiving blasts? Newsletters?
- Mail chimp

Other resources available to help market:

- Copy of joint marketing/selling membership presentation from national (notes included) can be found at: www.pbps.us/Orlando2016MarCom.ppt This is a huge file. Maybe we need it put into a drop box?
- National presence in the media! Consolidated effort by national to market United States Power Squadrons across the country would greatly benefit the organization. Staffed to handle media blitz? Public Relations Committee doing their job – check website for resources such as Prolog.
- Millennials are changing as they grow older, marry, have children; maybe they will go back to “fun” events

The District Marketing TEAM has now been expanded by one new member, P/D/C Jim Jones, SN, and we have a coach, Bill Munroe, Bellevue Squadron.

This means a shuffle of squadrons amongst the TEAM members. The new point of contacts, so be ready to hear from them, are:

Annette Ferguson, newfy03@gmail.com

Bellingham, Deception Pass, Everett, Skagit Bay

Jim Harden, jdharden@msn.com

Agate Pass, Bremerton, Poverty Bay, Tacoma

Jim Jones, jajjones8@msn.com

North Olympic, North Star, Point Wilson

Barbara Erickson, bje46@msn.com

Bellevue, Friday Harbor, Seattle, Spokane



Ahoy, mateys! Shiver me timbers!
By P/C Michael Guelker-Cone, P

You'll soon be a settin' your sails for Bellingham, aye! The Pirates of the Salish Sea will be welcomin' ye indeed! October 28-30 be the dates for the District 16 Fall Council/Conference.

All ye scurvy dogs, ye landlubbers, wenches and buccaneers weigh anchor, hoist yur sails and set course for The Four Points by Sheraton Hotel and Conference Center. Yes, me hearties, that be whar ye will be findin' yur mateys having fun! Thar'll be plenty of rum and ale to go 'round for only a few doubloons.

We'll be havin' a fine party on Friday night after the Council meetin'. Plenty of fine eats and drink. We'll be looking for ye in your pirate finery, we will. Blow me down, we'll even be hostin' a raffle and offerin up plenty of booty to the highest bidders.

Thar'll be plenty o' surprises all weekend then, so don't be missin' this one, bucko, or you may find yourself walkin' a plank someday, if ye get me meanin'! We'll have the place ship shape and in bristol fashion for ye so look lively then and make plans for seein' that yer here . . .or we'll be a missin' you for sure. Aarrgh!

Add a Jolly Roger flag as a "masthead"



UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®
District 16 Educational Seminar
April 30, 2016 – 0900 to 1600
The COAST Hotel, Bellevue, WA
Hosted By: Bellevue Sail & Power Squadron



The Coast Hotel located at 625 116th Avenue NE, Bellevue, WA 98004 is the venue for this year's District 16 Educational Conference. The conference room doors will open at 0830. We ask that you preregister and send a check indicating your lunch selection, which will be catered by the hotel.

This is a one-day discussion session for all things education related. It is open to all squadron members and may be of special interest to instructors and members considering becoming instructors. We have scheduled an Instructor Development Recertification for those who need it.

For those members driving and planning to stay overnight there will be a special guestroom rate of \$99 per night for Friday, April 29 and Saturday, April 30. To take advantage of this rate call Shari at 425-709-1102 or email: skimball@coasthotelsusa.com. Also, the hotel has a complimentary continental breakfast in the restaurant for all overnight hotel guests.

Please attend the lunch as we have a food & beverage requirement to cover the cost of the meeting room. *Choose either of the three lunch selections for \$20:*

[] COBB SALAD

Mixed Greens, Tomatoes, Bacon, Chicken, Avocado, Egg, Blue Cheese Crumbles and Green Onion tossed with Bleu Cheese Dressing served with rolls and butter, Starbucks regular & decaffeinated coffee, assorted Tazo teas.

[] LEMON CHICKEN

Lightly breaded, browned and baked, topped with a sweet and tart Lemon sauce. Served with Salad, rolls and butter, Starbucks regular & decaffeinated coffee, assorted Tazo Teas.

() VEGAN CHICK'NPARMESAN

Lightly breaded vegan chicken with parmesan Breadcrumb crust and Pest sauce.

To register for lunch please send a check for \$20.00 and indicate your lunch preference to:

P/R/C Trudy Brown, AP,

3220 98th Avenue NE, Bellevue, WA 98004-1813, Phone (425) 454 0115. Email trudyb36@outlook.com

Make checks payable to D-16 ED Seminar.

Need lunch count by April 26.

Please address any additional questions/comments or suggestion to the agenda to:

Tom Dalgliesh, (360) 366-3346 waverleytom@gmail.com or

Al Keim, (206) 779-5346 al@keimco.net.

The agenda will be distributed separately.



District 16 Rendezvous

Poulsbo June 24-25, 2016

Mark your calendar for the 40th Annual D16 Rendezvous in Poulsbo. Watch for updates and registration forms on www.uspsd16.org & in your squadron's publication. Reservations for mooring and all meals are made on your registration Form and must be received before 10 June.

Docktail Party-Friday June 24, A tour of American Cuisine

Our Docktail party will challenge our imagination and invite each Squadron to serve their favorite Regional American Cuisine. Prepare your favorite hors d'oeuvres and treats from your region and share.

Saturday Morning-June 25, 2016

- Opening Ceremonies, Fire Extinguisher Demo and Flare Shoot.
- Enjoy breakout sessions and Seminars with Sticks and Strings, Optimizing your Website and Cooperative Charting.

Saturday Early Afternoon-June 25, 2016, Extending Our Reach

- Squadrons will share what works to strength their connection with the community. How extending our reach within our community may improve recruitment and retention. You may want to use the same style of presentation as you would use in your Sea Skills programs.

Saturday Evening-June 25, 2016

- The catered BBQ dinner features a choice of Pork Ribs or Chicken at the Sons of Norway Hall. Stay on after dinner for the silent auction, prize awards and entertainment.

About 60 slips are reserved for boaters and a block of rooms is reserved in the Guesthouse Inn & Suites at (360) 697-4400, reference "USPSD16".

You must make your room reservation by 24 May, 2016 to receive the group rate of \$90.00 plus tax. Questions: Contact D/Lt/C Mahmoud Abdel-Monem at (360) 279-8972 or ao/uspsd16.org

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***District 16 Calendar
2016***

April

30 April Education Conference
Bellevue

May

21-27 May Safe Boating Week

June

24-25 June District 16 Rendezvous
Poulsbo WA

July

14 July Charles F. Chapman Award nominee
Sent to DEO

August

1 Aug Cardinal Points Deadline
Fall Issue

21-28 Aug Governing Board Mtg
Sheraton Pittsburgh at Station Square

October

28-29 Oct D16 Fall Conference
Bellingham

November

15 Nov MM due area monitors

December

1 Dec Cardinal Points Deadline
Winter Issue

Make reservations for USPS Annual Mtg
Rosen Centre, Orlando FL
(19-16 February 2017)