

Volume 49#2

50th year "America's Boating Club"©

August 2011

**September 12-17**

National USPS

Four Seasons

Greensboro, NC

**Sept 30-Oct 2 2011**

D/27 Fall C/C

Marriott Hotel

Winston-Salem, NC

**January 7th 2012**

D/27 Training

NC State Univ. Club

**USPS National Meeting**

25-29 January 2012

Jacksonville, FL.

**March 23-25 2012**

D/27 Spring C/C

COW

New Bern Hilton

**May 4-5th 2012**

D/27 Rendezvous

Holiday Inn Express

Little River, SC

**September 2-9 2012**

USPS Detroit, MI

**October 12th-14th 2012**

D/27 Fall C/C TBD

**January 5th 2013**

D/27 Training

NC State University Club

**March 22nd-24th 2013**

D/27 50th Anniversary

## D/C Message

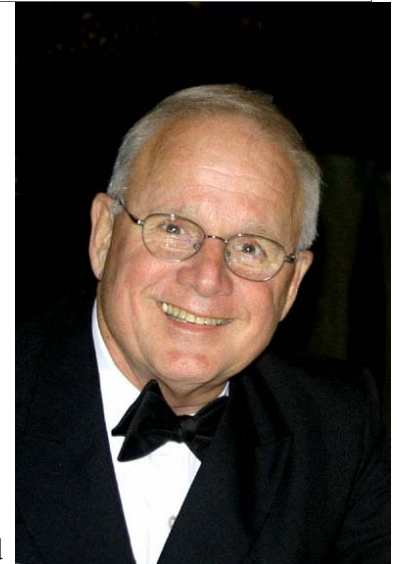
### Michael D. McCulley, JN

#### PARTICIPATION IN USPS MEETINGS

One of the District 27 Bridge officers recently told me that he had either heard through the grapevine or been told directly by some of the members of our district that many people have complained about the fact that the USPS Governing Board Meeting and our District 27 Fall Conference are scheduled too close together. It's my assumption that these people who complained have, or had, a serious intention of attending both meetings. These two meetings will always be held fairly close to each other. Of course, we have no control over when USPS decides to hold its National meetings. But, to alleviate the situation in our district somewhat, next year's Fall Conference will be held a couple of weeks later to provide a longer break between the two meetings. Whether the time between them is 2 weeks or 4 weeks, I believe that there will always be three main factors affecting members' decisions on attending meetings - money, schedule conflicts or motivation, or all three. The first two reasons are very understandable. If, however, the third reason applies to you, I suggest that you reconsider. Besides the social aspect of District and National level meetings, there is also much work to be done for the betterment of the organization, which requires maximum participation from the membership.

The presence of the Governing Board in Greensboro this year offers District 27 members a unique opportunity to attend a National meeting without having to travel a long distance or even stay in a hotel. Many of you live close enough to commute. As a minimum, I strongly suggest that you attend at least the actual Governing Board meeting on Saturday, September 17th. Some of you may be reluctant because you don't own a uniform. But, keep in mind that the wearing of uniforms in USPS is optional and appropriate "civilian" attire is always acceptable.

After my first National meeting, I had a much better understanding of how USPS supports the squadrons and individual members and felt much more in touch with the national officers after personally meeting and talking to many of them. This not only gave me a much better idea of what National does to support us in the "trenches" but also enhanced my viewpoint of the overall purpose of our organization. So, I highly recommend that as many of you *Cont page 2*



Continued fro page 1

as possible take advantage of this opportunity.

Of course, it is my hope that we have a great turnout for the District Fall Conference in Winston-Salem to be held September 30 - October 2. Our semi-annual conferences give us the opportunity to come together to learn what's going on in our district, to have some very beneficial discussions on a myriad of topics and to get to know each other better.

Each one of you has to decide whether to attend one or both of these meetings. The important thing is that you participate in at least one of them.

**See you in Greensboro or Winston-Salem.**

#### 2011 MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

The Membership Growth and Membership Retention awards time frames for 2011 have been changed and approved at the Fall Conference last year. Unfortunately the change is not yet reflected in the Awards Manual.

This year these awards will be presented at the March 2012 Change of Watch rather than the 2011 Fall Conference and cover the calendar year of 2011 rather half of 2010 and half of 2011.

The reason for the change is the change in the membership year to an anniversary date rather than 1 June. The retention award was figured as the ratio between the April and the July membership numbers after deducting new members during that time frame. Since we all had a 1 June renewal date, it made sense. Now that more and more people do not have the 1 June date, the validity of the retention score keeps getting worse and worse. We are now going to use the calendar year as the basis instead of the months around June. New members for the entire year will be deducted rather than for the April-July time frame and then the ratio will be determined between 1 Jan and Dec 31.

The Membership Growth award will also be calculated on the calendar year basis. It is being changed to coincide with the Membership retention award. There will be no difference in the calculations. It is just the difference between one year and the next year.

#### Youth Poster Contest

***“Be A Survivor – Wear it”*** is this year's theme for the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Boarman Youth Poster Contest. The poster contest cash awards are given annually by Woody Boarman of Vero Beach Sail and Power Squadron to promote youth appreciation of the water and how safe boating is fun boating.

The contest is open to all children ages 6-14. A first place award of \$150, second place award of \$100 and third place award of \$75 are given in three age groups: 1) 6-8 years, 2) 9-11 years and 3) 12-14 years. Last year D/27 had national second place winners in two age groups but we only had three squadrons submit posters for consideration at the district level. I know that we have many talented youth in D/27 so let's get the word out. Any child who wants to participate may do so as long as their posters are submitted through a squadron in the district.

Each squadron may submit first, second and third place winners in each of the age groups for the district judging that will take place at the D/27 Winter Officer Training held in Raleigh on January 7, 2012. Although the national deadline is officially January 1, we have received special permission to wait until January 7 to notify national of our district winners. Therefore, it is imperative that the district judging be completed at the training session on January 7. The district may submit only one first-place winner in each age category to the USPS Annual Meeting in Jacksonville, FL on Thursday, January 26 for the national judging.

The Grand Prize winner and two runner-up posters in each age group will be displayed at the USPS Annual Meeting. All participants at the national level will receive certificates of appreciation signed by the Chief Commander.

The posters will be judged for the idea presented more than artistic ability. There are specific rules and requirements regarding the posters, paper, and media that can be used. For contest instructions, a submission form, guidelines and tips, go to <http://www.usps.org/national/membership/youth/poster.htm>.

If you have questions or concerns don't hesitate to contact me. The more squadrons that participate, the more the word is getting out about USPS in D/27.

D/1<sup>st</sup>/Lt Paula Schubert, AP Asst Administrative Officer [paula.schubert@earthlink.net](mailto:paula.schubert@earthlink.net)

## District Educational Officer D/Lt/C George Malindzak, SN

### Boat Operator Certification (BOC)

#### IN and CN Certification Training Programs

The big news at this time of the year is the status and activities concerning the BOC (Boat Operator Certification) Program. After a sluggish start, the momentum on the Program has accelerated considerably, particularly in D27. Since March of this year, when Clay Helm and I were 'anointed' as Certifier Trainers, we have had and are scheduling the following IN (Inland Navigator) and CN (Coastal Navigator) OTW (on-the-water) Training sessions:

Albemarle Squadron – June 2011

D27 Rendezvous -June 2011

Raleigh/Durham Squadrons-July 2011

Charlotte/Lake Norman/Catawba Squadrons-August 2011 (planned)

Raleigh/Durham/Goldsboro-August-2011 (planned)

Greensboro/GB Meeting-September 2011 (planned)

Albemarle Squadron-September 2011 (planned)

The details of the various levels of BOC Certification are spelled out in the April 2011 Bitts article. I encourage all SEOs to avail themselves of this opportunity to arrange and schedule an IN or CN training session for their particular squadron.

#### Practical On-the-Water Training Seminar

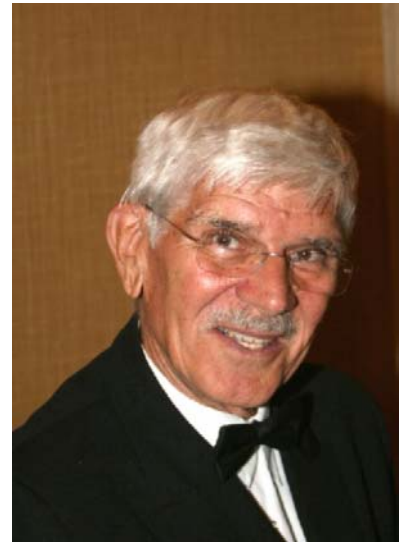
In conjunction with a grant from the USCG, the USPS has developed an 8-hour program of classroom and on the water training. The grant funds the on the water elements associated with our Advanced Powerboat Handling seminar. The final product will include accompanying video which we filmed in New Smyrna, Florida in June. This activity will form the basis for the Practical on-the-Water Training. The USPS has involved, as a partner, US Sailing which trained USPS trainers, and included BoatUS, NSBC, Coast Guard Auxiliary, and Army Corps of Engineers in addition to the Coast Guard. This program will provide our core on the water training program as well as forming the basis for cooperative activities with other organizations.

#### **Target Audience**

This program is suitable for all audiences; however, an attempt will be made to group boaters by experience level even by offering classes separately to new and somewhat experienced boaters in one group and experienced boaters in another.

New boaters will learn how and why a boat does what it does in response to their operator actions. This will accelerate their on water learning experience. This is the conscious phase of learning wherein they will be thinking about each maneuver. They are likely to become overwhelmed if presented with too much information in a single session. As such the second classroom session should be focused on reinforcing what they learned on the water.

Experienced boaters have probably learned by trial and error. Some of their actions may not be the best way to handle their boats, so there may be some unlearning of old habits to be done. The introductory material will help them put their boating actions into context now that they understand why the boat does what it does. This will enable them to improve their skills. Experienced boaters will benefit from more advanced material such as that provided for the second classroom session. *Continued next page*



## ***Education Officer article continued***

### **Overall Program Format**

The program is designed to be accomplished in a single day combining classroom and on water work. This facilitates getting students to a specific location and lets them finish in the same day. It is possible to offer the classroom work on separate days before and after the on water work if this is convenient to the students.

All audiences should receive the initial classroom session which lasts approximately 2-1/2 hours. This is the session that presents an overview of the on water program and provides them with the fundamentals of boat handling followed by instructions and videos of the maneuvers they will do on the water. While the students are receiving their classroom training, the rest of the crew can set up the course for on water exercises. There is no practical limit on the number of students in the classroom sessions.

Next, comes on water training. This is planned for approximately 3 hours or more depending upon the logistics. Multiple boats and instructors are optimum. There is a set of pre-launch exercises that all should do at the docks. These will take about 1/2 to 1 hour depending upon the number of students per boat. After these pre-launch exercises would be a good time to break for lunch.

Then, there are two sets of on water exercises: Close Quarters and Open Water. With two or more boats, it makes sense to have half the students do close quarters work first and half do the open water work.

The close quarters maneuvers are accomplished near docks and fairways. In this case, it is not essential that an instructor be on the boat, but must be in visual and oral proximity to direct the students. Depending upon the boat 2 – 4 students can be on the boat(s). The close quarters maneuvers take more time, but the open water exercises require time to get to and from the course venue, so the two should even out. A typical set of exercises with two students on a boat will take less than an hour – longer with more students. The two sets of exercises should take about 2 – 3 hours.

The on water exercises form the heart of the program after the initial introductory classroom work. All students will return to the classroom after the on water exercises for debriefing and additional lecture material. The most important task back in the classroom is to review the on water exercises and answer student questions. The videos can be used to reinforce and confusion or questions. There is considerable PowerPoint material which will be used or not, based on the instructor's assessment of the students and time available.

### **Take Away Material**

Each student should receive three items: *Powerboat Handling Illustrated* book, the *Practical on the Water Training* workbook which includes the slides and notes for the presentation material, and a DVD containing the videos and the PowerPoint presentation in video format. Those who complete the program will receive a certificate. Those who complete and demonstrate the on water skills successfully will receive credit for the on-water skills requirement of *Inland Navigator Certification*.

### **Cost**

The costs for this program are being beta tested in Clearwater, Florida as I write this report. The variables include boat fuel, lunches for the participants during the day of training, possible room rental for the delivery of the classroom material, etc. It appears on the surface that the cost to the squadrons will be in the neighborhood of \$150-175, hence the cost to members. The cost to the public is estimated to be at least \$250. These are estimates and are likely to change. However, we know the cost to members will likely be more the \$100 and less than \$200. I suspect the squadrons will be at liberty to add whatever additional cost to non-members that they see fit.

## District Executive Officer

### D/Lt/C Harold W. O'Briant, JN

Summertime is normally the busiest time of the year for committees within the Executive Department. This summer is no exception. D/27 members involved in Vessel Safety Examinations and Co-Operative Charting are hard at it.

As of this writing District 27 has accounted for 1580 vessel safety examinations by 121 examiners for an average of 13.1 vessels per examiner. This is the highest average within USPS. However, two districts have greater totals examined to date. District 5, with 207 examiners, has checked 2068 vessels for an average of 10 vessels per examiner. And, District 22 has examined 1689 vessels with 143 examiners for an average of 11.8 vessels per examiner.

While our examiner average is the highest, our totals are lacking. What really drives this home is that there are three squadrons in District 27 and 24 examiners throughout the District with NO checks at this point this year. What really is disappointing is that one of these squadrons is a coastal squadron.

If those examiners with no reports can at least complete the average number of 13.1 vessels, we will be second in USPS and with the rest of the examiners continuing to work, there is no reason we can't be on top at the end of the year. We can do this.

If you have been holding back any exams, please submit them. With the upcoming Governing Board meeting in Greensboro, examination totals to date will be important.

Two other pieces of information regarding exams to note are: (1) the USCG Boating Safety Division considers fire extinguishers, more than 12 years older than the date of manufacture stamped on the unit, outdated and should be replaced. (2) Squadrons VSC chairpersons should be preparing their inventory reports which we know are required each year. Any questions can be directed to D/Lt William S. Halkovitch, AP, VSC chairperson for the District.

Co-Operative charting is also an ongoing challenge throughout the year. Within Co-Operative Charting there are no totals, but credits awarded. District 27 finished in the top five districts within USPS last year. Because of your efforts, D/Lt Phillip A. Benson, JN of Rocky Mount Sail & Power Squadron and chairman of the District's Co-Operative charting effort has been recommended for the USPS/NOAA Golden Eagle Award. This is a very prestigious award and recognizes a district's efforts in co-operative charting. The award recipient will be decided at the Governing Board meeting in Greensboro and presented at the USPS Annual Meeting in Jacksonville, FL. in January.

Phil Benson continues to lead our district with enthusiasm and untiring training and inspires our squadrons to be the best. The letters received from our squadrons supporting his recommendation leave no doubt of his commitment to the members of District 27 and USPS in our co-operative charting effort.

One note of interest regarding Co-Op charting reports for the rest of this charting year is there will be no credits for mileage. The National Cooperative Charting Committee in conjunction with NOAA has determined "there was a disproportionately large amount of credits being issued for mileage as compared to the credits being issued by the information the report contained." Additionally, area representatives will monitor the time credits for reports. *Continued next page*



*Continued from page 5*

All members of District 27 should be aware of the upcoming USPS Governing Board meeting in Greensboro. One of the most important aspects of this meeting is the leadership development seminars being offered to us. If you are in any leadership position within USPS, District 27, or squadron, you cannot afford to pass up on this opportunity to attend either the DAO/SAO or DXO/SXO development seminars. Developed over the past two years, they offer tried and proven ways to provide upcoming, present and even past leaders the necessary tools to cope with the demands of being a leader within USPS.

Next year, District 27 can be the first district to have had all their bridge members, both squadron and district, attend these seminars. There is no substitute for these seminars and you, your squadron and your District can only benefit from your attendance. The information presented will be of utmost importance to us during the coming years. Squadron bridge officers, present and future should make every attempt to attend. More information, including a direct link to the schedules and registration forms may be found on the [www.usps.org](http://www.usps.org) website on the National Meetings page.

There are approximately 1230 members of District 27 signed on to SailAngle. This means there are another 500 of you not signed on to SailAngle. Those of you not signed on have already missed mailings from USPS and the District. Please sign on to Sail Angle so you do not miss any communications. This gives us at the District level an immediate and easy way to communicate with every member.

Finally, you will note one change in the upcoming Fall Conference meeting in Winston-Salem. There will be no presentation of the Past District Commander's awards in membership. Because of a resolution passed at the conference last year in New Bern, the awards will now be presented at the Spring Conference. D/Lt/C Robert Howd, JN has an article detailing this change elsewhere in this BITTS issue.



**SUMMER & BOATING  
SEASON WILL BE  
HERE BEFORE YOU  
KNOW IT**

# District Administrative Officer

## D/LT/C Robert F. Howd, JN

We would like to remind you that the membership awards have been changed to a calendar year basis instead of ending on June 1. The 2011 awards will be presented at the 2012 COW in March. Please see the separate article in this edition about the details.

Coming up very soon is the USPS Governing Board in Greensboro September 14-17. The Administrative and Executive Officer training is going to be presented there. This is a great opportunity to get some training and attend a National meeting without a lot of travel, and to meet the National representatives and attend several seminars.

Shortly after the Governing Board is the D27 Fall Council/Conference in Winston-Salem starting Sept 30. In addition to the business conducted, there are seminars presented for which attendees will receive credit. There are also other classes for general training. The Administrative Department will be presenting a breakout session on making your Squadron website more useful to both members and non-members, and providing membership recruitment and retention tips. When you look at the schedule you will also see that the Secretary's Department will be presenting a website breakout session that will be focused more on the basics and what is required by National for website awards.

Another event is the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Boarman Youth Poster Contest. The District will judge the squadron-winning entries at the January training meeting in Raleigh. Let's get some groups to turn in several entries. Last year we had only three squadrons participate. We can do better than that. The D27 poster contest representative is D/1<sup>st</sup>/Lt Paula Schubert, AP. See the separate article in this edition about the details. [paula.schubert@earthlink.net](mailto:paula.schubert@earthlink.net).

We have about 40 cyber squadron members living in the North Carolina area. All the squadrons have been notified about these people and many have been contacted but we don't seem to have a very good conversion rate to-date.

Some notes from the Administrative committee chairs:

**June Reasons (OT chair):** Maybe the Fall will be a better time for OT sessions. Evidently, Summer is not. It's also time for nominating committees to be thinking about new bridges. Those selected will probably need some training or refreshing. It's not a bad idea to include new members in your sessions to help generate some interest in becoming a committee head or an active member. Put them on the fast track to becoming officers and don't forget to send me the reports of your training sessions. I can accept them by e-mail, but be sure to send National a copy as well. [2reasons@suddenlink.net](mailto:2reasons@suddenlink.net)

**Sarah McCurry (meetings):** You may have noticed an "activity fee" included in the last couple of meetings. This is to help defray the cost of the meeting rooms. There are some of us that attend the meetings but never eat a meal, stay in a room, or do anything else that costs anything. Each room costs us so we can either pad the cost of the meals or charge a fee. The fee method was approved by the District last year. [smccurry@atmc.net](mailto:smccurry@atmc.net).

**Sandie Williams Howd (member benefits):** There are a multitude of special deals for USPS members. Check out the new website [www.uspsvacations.org](http://www.uspsvacations.org) for assistance in planning for cruises and vacations with big discounts using your certificate number. [sandra.williams@juno.com](mailto:sandra.williams@juno.com).

**Nita Neumeister (member involvement):** The Lake Norman Squadron submitted an application for the P/C/C William D. Selden, IV, SN Membership Involvement Retention Award in May of this year. They have created a membership committee to attend each of the Public Boating classes for active recruitment, created a mentoring program from existing members to orient new members and encourage participation in programs, and asked members directly to do specific tasks to support the squadron activities rather than wait for them to volunteer. By asking seasoned members to mentor new members it gives them a goal to increase their participation, too. In May, 25 members had already qualified for a merit mark. [nautinita@bellsouth.net](mailto:nautinita@bellsouth.net)

**Jonnie' Chardonn (membership):** I've had some time to take a look at our District 27 web sites and have found so many great things to brag about. Here and there were some minor additions or changes that can make a world of difference to make your squadron's website user friendly and improve the overall appearance. This is not to say that all the Power Squadron prerequisites were not there, but we're looking at the aesthetics. This can influence potential members and maybe really intimidate some of your computer challenged members if it is not just plain -- "keep it simple" but none-the-less effective. Some squadrons have really stepped up to bat that did not even have websites a few months ago and have created ones that are just outstanding. Great job!! [jchardonn@yahoo.com](mailto:jchardonn@yahoo.com)

Your Administrative team is here to help make sure that you have a successful year. Don't hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns.

D/Lt/C Robert Howd, JN

Administrative officer

D/1<sup>st</sup>/Lt Paula Schubert, AP

Asst Administrative Officer [Rhowd1@cc.rr.com](mailto:Rhowd1@cc.rr.com)

[paula.schubert@earthlink.net](mailto:paula.schubert@earthlink.net)



## District Secretary

## D/Lt/C David J. Simons, AP

Unless you have been in a coma or off the planet for the past few months, you already know that the USPS Governing Board meeting will be held right in our own backyard (Greensboro) in September. And right on the heels of that big event will be our own D27 Council and Conference Meeting in Winston-Salem on the last weekend of September. I am confident that other members of the D27 Bridge will be quite eloquent about these opportunities, so I will leave that to them. But I do want to tell you about some other available opportunities which you may not know about. One is that there will be guided tours of our USPS National Headquarters on the Wednesday and Thursday of the Governing Board meeting. The tour itself will take about one hour. What is not evident when viewed from the outside is just how big the facility is. The building was completed in 1977 and enlarged in 1991. The addition includes the USPS Library which has numerous mementos on display such as flags which went into space and very old navigation instruments as well as some excellent and very valuable artwork. If you have never been there, it is well worth the time. The other important opportunity is that we will have a number of new USPS items for sale, one of which was just being unpacked for the first time when I was at HQ. I have already placed that item at the top of my Christmas list, if I can wait that long.



What I really want to discuss is COMMUNICATIONS! In any organization, it is crucially important that everyone involved in the organization has the same understanding of what is going on. If everyone is close together, that is not so difficult. But in situations such as D27 where we are stretched from Southport to Lake Norman and Catawba, the problem becomes much more complex. Then we add another and very different audience; i.e., non-members who might be interested in becoming MEMBERS. The most effective method of communications today, thanks to the Internet, is the website.

I spent some time looking at the websites provided by the squadrons of D27. Our D27 Membership Chair, Jonnie' Chardonn, also did that but in greater depth. What I saw was "creativity". Every website was very different; there were all kinds of ways to determine the officers, for example. But in some cases it is not possible or it is out-dated. In my view, there are two primary purposes of the website; the first is to give the members the latest information about what is happening in THEIR squadron and the second is to tell non-members (also known as prospective members) just what the squadron is doing and where they are doing it and how to get in touch with them. A website is a dynamic source of information, not a history book. It needs to be accurate and timely.

The D27 website is the responsibility of the D27 Secretary. The same is true for the squadrons. But the content of the website must come from the other departments within the district and squadron. The other department which is most interested in the website is the Administrative Dept which is responsible for membership. So the D27 Secretary Dept and the D27 Administrative Dept will be jointly sponsoring two break-out sessions at the D27 Council/Conference in Winston-Salem. The first will address what I think of as the "mechanics" of a website; i.e., what information must be provided to make it useful and also meet the criteria defined by USPS for bestowing the Communicator Award. The second will address the less well-defined question of "what makes a website exciting"; in other words, what is it that leads a visitor to look further at our website. I hope every Squadron Secretary and Webmaster in D27 will be there and attend both of these sessions.

There is one other situation which we know about but which cannot be addressed quite yet because the problem is not just a question of what is the best solution. The real question is what to do about those squadrons which do not have a website at all. The key to this problem is the lack of technical expertise in the squadrons. My hope is to address this during the D27 Officer Training Meeting in January.

There is one more aspect of Communications which I want to bring to address. Many of us are using SailAngle already. Starting in September, D27 will start using it in an effective new way. We will be using it as a fast means of communicating with all of USPS D27. When the D27 newsletter, the BITTS, is ready; it is posted on the D27 website by the D27 Webmaster, Luis Lopez. Just as soon as the BITTS is posted, he will send a message via SailAngle that it has been posted. Everyone who is on SailAngle (hopefully everybody in D27) will be notified within minutes that the BITTS is available. If you are NOT ON SAILANGLE, you need to be!



## District Treasurer

**D/Lt/C David E. Parsons, AP**

Another great time was had by all that attended the D27 Rendezvous at River Dunes, Oriental, NC in June. If you were not able to attend, then you missed a great opportunity to fellowship with your fellow D27 members. Its always good to fellowship with your home squadrons but why miss out on an additional benefit of USPS membership by not getting to know and hear about what other squadrons in our District are doing.



Following our Rendezvous, I felt that it would be beneficial to squadrons that host District events to have a procedure/guideline in handling the financial aspects of the event. With the up-coming Fall Conference, this procedure/guideline will be tested by the Winston-Salem squadron and based on the results will be sent to the proper committee to have it considered for our procedures manual. I think it will assist the squadrons and Treasurer's in maintaining a better control of the Income and Expenditures for each event and therefore assist the Budget Committee in their preparations of future Budgets for the District. D/C McCulley has informed me that there is an opening during the first breakout session at our Fall Conference, in Winston-Salem. We will hold a round-table discussion for Treasurer's during this time, so I hope that all squadron Treasurer's will plan to attend. We can learn from each other and make our jobs a lot easier.

We have a viable District and one that we should all be proud of. We have a great opportunity to show off D27 and the great place we live, North Carolina, to the rest of the Nation at our up-coming USPS Governing Board in Greensboro in September. If you have never attended a National Meeting, I encourage you to do so when its so close to home. I have been fortunate enough to attend five such meetings since becoming a member of USPS and have learned a great deal about our organization at each one.

I was sorry to see the number of our D27 squadrons on the list for not filing the TR-1 form with National, following their submission of the IRS 990 report. I can not stress enough the importance in getting both forms filed. It not only jeopardizes the non-profit status of the squadron, there could also be huge monetary fines placed on the squadron as well. Please remember that the 990 form has to be submitted by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the 5<sup>th</sup> month following the end of the squadron fiscal year. If your squadron has not filed their report, for some that time frame is still open for getting the report in on time. For others please submit it, there is no penalty for filing it late.

See you at the Governing Board in September and then the D27 Fall Conference in Winston-Salem.

**Safe and Fun Boating!**

District 27 Fall Council & Conference Meeting 30 September 2011 – 2 October 2011

Marriott Winston-Salem 425 North Cherry Street Winston-Salem, NC 27101

Room Rates: \$109.00 plus tax

Reservations: 800-320-0934

(Ask for **US Power Squadrons D/27** block– Cutoff date for special rate is **8 Sept. 2011**)

### REGISTRATION FORM

Rank, Name, Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse or 2<sup>nd</sup> member – Rank, Name, Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

#### Friday

Foothills Brewing – Appetizers included \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15 \_\_\_\_\_

**YOU ARE ON YOUR OWN FOR DINNER**

#### Saturday

**SPOUSES COFFEE – NO CHARGE** Number attending needed \_\_\_\_\_

**FACILITIES FEE** \_\_\_\_\_ x \$5 \_\_\_\_\_

#### **MEMBERS LUNCH**

Chef Sandwich board (choice of 4 sandwiches) \_\_\_\_\_ x \$18 \_\_\_\_\_

**GLUTEN FREE – lettuce wraps** \_\_\_\_\_ x \$18 \_\_\_\_\_

#### **BANQUET & CASH BAR**

Herb Crusted Salmon entrée \_\_\_\_\_ x \$34 \_\_\_\_\_

**GLUTEN FREE** \_\_\_\_\_ x \$34 \_\_\_\_\_

Herb Roasted Chicken Breast entrée \_\_\_\_\_ x \$34 \_\_\_\_\_

**GLUTEN FREE** \_\_\_\_\_ x \$34 \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

New member since January 2010 \_\_\_\_\_ 1<sup>st</sup> time District Meeting \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to: Winston-Salem Sail & Power Squadron**

Send check and completed form by **22 September 2011** to:

Lt/C Kathi Vestal  
182 Parkview Circle  
Pinnacle, NC 27043

**D27 Fall Council Conference Agenda**  
**30 September - 2 October, 2011**  
**Marriott Hotel, Winston-Salem, NC**

**Friday – 30 September**

Uniform Casual – USPS Shirt

(Revised 21 August 2011)

Assignment	Event	Location	Event Lead / Speaker	Time
Winston-Salem D/Sec.	Attending Member Registration & Voter Registration	Hearn Foyer		1400-1800
Winston-Salem	Silent Auction Table	Hearn Foyer		1400-1800
D/C & Bridge	New Members, 1 <sup>st</sup> Timers, & Squadron Commanders Reception	D/C Suite	D/C Mike McCulley, JN	1600-1645
D/C & Bridge	P/D/C and Host Squadron Reception	D/C Suite	D/C Mike McCulley, JN	1645-1745
Winston-Salem	District Party – appetizers included & a cash bar – ON YOUR OWN FOR DINNER	Foothills Brewing 638 West Fourth St		1800-1930

**Saturday – 1 October**

Uniform – USPS Shirt for Conference, Blue Blazer w/ USPS Shirt or Appropriate Attire for Reception & Dinner

Assignment	Event	Location	Event Lead / Speaker	Time
Winston-Salem D/Sec.	Attending Member Registration & Voter Registration	Hearn Foyer		0700-0900
Winston-Salem Winston-Salem	Silent Auction Table	Hearn Foyer		0700-0900
Winston-Salem Winston-Salem	Spouses Coffee	D/C Suite		0900-1030
D/C	<b>Fall Council/Conference convenes</b> Invocation Pledge of Allegiance Intro. USPS Nat'l Rep & D/27 Guests Nat'l Representative Town Hall Mtg Bridge Officer Reports —break—	Hearn A	D/Lt Alec Wrenn, N Cdr Debbie Mayfield, S P/R/C Bill Reasons, SN R/C Jeff Hamilton, AP D/27 Bridge Officers	0900-1030
	<b>Break-Out Session 1</b> Sqd Cdrs and Sqd Exec Officers	Hearn A	D/C Mike McCulley, JN & D/Lt/C Harold O'Briant, JN	1045-1145
	Education Officers – Rules of the Road I	Hearn C	P/C Dan Bartell, SN	
	Treasurers	Hearn D	D/Lt/C Dave Parsons, AP	
	Improving Websites I	Winston	D/Lt/C Dave Simons, AP	
	Nominating Committee (closed)	Salem	P/D/C Jamie McCurry, AP	
D/C	<b>Members Awards Luncheon</b> Luncheon Speaker Introduction North Carolina Lighthouses —break—	Hearn B	D/C Mike McCulley, JN D/Lt/C Bob Howd, JN Speaker – Bett Padgett	1200-1415
	<b>Break-Out Session 2</b> Administration Officers	Hearn A	D/Lt/C Bob Howd, JN	1430-1530
	Cooperative Charting	Hearn D	P/C Phil Benson, JN	
	Education Officers – ID Certification	Hearn C	D/Lt Tom Penders, SN	
	Improving Websites II	Winston	D/Lt/C Dave Simons, AP	
	Planning Committee (closed) —break—	Salem	P/D/C Jerry Hall, SN	
D/C	<b>Fall Council/Conference reconvenes</b> Reports of General Committees Reports of Standing Committees Meeting Adjourns —break—	Hearn A	Committee Chairperson Committee Chairperson D/C Mike McCulley, JN	1535-1545  1545
N Club	N Club Meeting – Rules of the Road II	Hearn A	P/C Larry Colwell, SN	1600-1700
D27 Meetings Chair	Members Reception (cash bar) & Dinner	Hearn B	D/Lt Sarah McCurry, S	1800

**Sunday – 2 October**

Uniform Casual - USPS Shirt

Assignment	Event	Location	Event Lead / Speaker	Time
P. Benson	Cooperative Charting	Salem	P/C Phil Benson, JN	0900-1030

**HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL IN WINSTON-SALEM**  
**REGISTER EARLY FOR THE BEST SEATS!**

## NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR FALL CONFERENCE/COUNCIL

R/C Jeff C. Hamilton, AP

### Chairman National Planning Committee

**Jeff Hamilton** is “second-generation” United States Power Squadrons® having passed the Public Boating Course at the age of 11 alongside his dad who is nearly a 40-year member. Jeff himself joined in 1990. Both he and his wife Nancy are active members of the Minnetonka Power Squadron which, as part of District 10, is centered on Lake Minnetonka just west of the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota.

At the squadron level, Jeff began as newsletter editor, has served terms as Safety Officer, Cooperative Charting Chair and member the Endowment, Roster, Rules, Planning, Nominating and Executive committees. He served as Executive Officer before serving as Commander in 2002-2003. Jeff continues to teach portions of America's Boating Course and serve on the Squadron Endowment Committee.



of

At the district level, in addition to his terms as Administrative and Executive Officer before serving as Commander in 2005-2006, Jeff has held offices in the Commander, Secretary and Executive departments including Aide, Advisor, Assistant Secretary, Computer Systems Officer, Cooperative Charting Chair and Planning Committee Chair. He continues to serve as chair of the Committee on Nominations, as Cooperative Charting Chair and as Computer Systems Officer.

At the National level Jeff has served three years on the Planning Committee and was elected chair in 2010.

Professionally, Jeff has spent the past 25 years in engineering, marketing and business development for the commercial building automation system industry. He began his career with Honeywell, Inc., has worked for Johnson Controls, Inc., and spent several years with McQuay International leaving as Director of Control Systems Technology and Product Management. He is currently serving as the Integrated Solutions Program Manager for the controls group at Trane, which is now part of Ingersoll Rand. Jeff is responsible for the strategic direction, development, marketing and management of controls-related products and programs that complement core Trane-brand control products and help Ingersoll Rand deliver integrated, intelligent commercial building control systems.

Jeff holds a Bachelors Degree in Mechanical/Industrial Engineering from the University of Minnesota and a Masters Degree in Business Administration from the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota. He is a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), the Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE) and the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE).

In addition to boating and Power Squadron activities, Jeff spends his time working with computers and technology, dabbling in photography, wrenching on custom cars and riding his motorcycle. Together, Jeff and Nancy enjoy traveling, working around their home, attending car shows and are just beginning to ride motorcycles independently together.

**DISTRICT 27 BITTS**

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**FIRST CLASS**



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**September 30th—October 2nd 2011**

**D/27 Fall conference & Council Meeting @ Winston-Salem**

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