

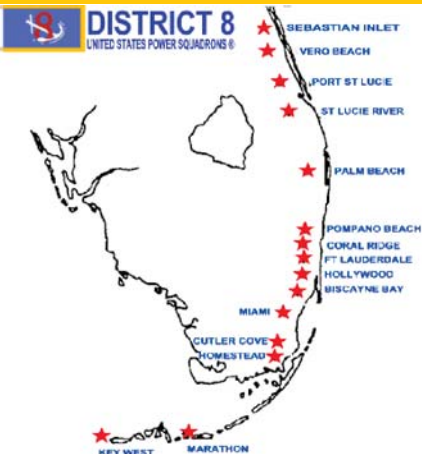


# PIECES OF EIGHT

Official Publication of District 8, United States Power Squadrons

A Unit of United States Power Squadrons® America's Boating Club®

## WINTER 2012



## USPS 2012 ANNUAL MEETING JACKSONVILLE, FL



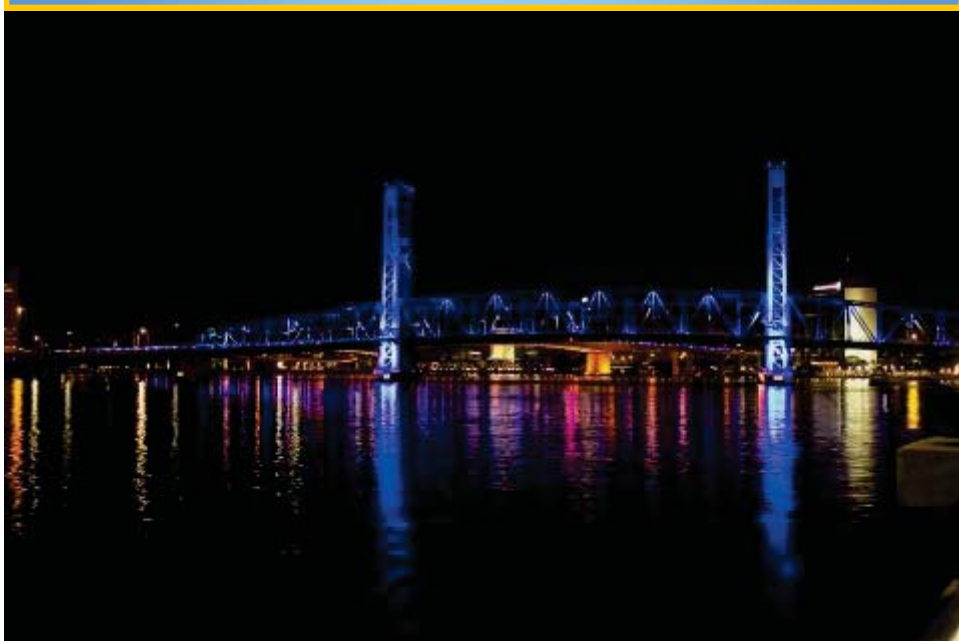
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All photos are available for viewing or downloading from the following website:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/artdodd52/sets/72157629119471511/>



## COME TO THE D8 SPRING CONFERENCE !

27 - 29 APRIL 2012

See pages 15-18 for information on events, seminars, meetings & reservation form.

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## PIECES OF EIGHT

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## CALL TO THE SPRING COUNCIL

Per District 8 Bylaws Article 5, Section 5.2 and 5.3, District Commander Gary L. Ferguson, JN has called the Spring Council meeting for 1500 on Friday, 27 April 2012 at the Marriott at Boca Center, 5150 Town Center Circle, Boca Raton, FL 33483.

Per District 8 Bylaws Article 3, Section 3.1, voting members of the Council include the district bridge, immediate past district commander, chairmen of General Committees (Nominating, Auditing and Rules) and squadron commanders.

Any member of District 8 will have the privilege of the floor upon recognition by the Chair. All members of the District are encouraged to attend this meeting and commanders should urge bridge officers to be present.

An absent squadron commander may be represented by another bridge officer of the squadron and in the absence of an officer for whom there is an elected assistant, the assistant may act for the principal.

The agenda for this meeting includes:

- Reports of squadron commanders. (Please be prepared to stand and give a verbal report even if your report is already on file).
- Reports of district department chairmen.
- Reports of General Committees.
- Reports of Standing Committees.
- Announcements.
- Other business that may properly come before the Council.

All Photos By

D/Lt Arthur Dodd, AP

(Palm Beach)

## CALL TO THE SPRING CONFERENCE

In accordance with the provisions of Article 5 of District 8 Bylaws, District Commander Gary L. Ferguson, JN issues the Call to the Spring Conference. It is to be held at the Marriott at Boca Center, 5150 Town Center Circle, Boca Raton, FL 33483, Saturday, 28 April 2012 at 1330.

The purpose of the meeting is to act on matters set forth below.

1. To hear and act upon reports of officers.
2. To consider and act upon any other business that may properly come before the Conference.
3. To consider and act upon reports, resolutions and recommendations from the Council, officers and committees.

District 8 Bylaws Article 4 and 5 describe the Conference and its functions extensively and are recommended reading for all members.

Section 4.1: The Conference shall be composed of the Council, the past district commanders of this district who are active members of district squadrons, and the delegates which persons shall be the voting members of the Conference.

Section 4.2.1: Delegates shall be selected by each squadron on the basis of one delegate for each twenty five (25) active members in good standing or major fraction thereof as of the preceding 1 March, with a minimum of two (2) delegates per squadron.

Section 4.2.3: Prior to each meeting of the Conference each squadron commander shall submit in writing to the district secretary, a list of the squadron's delegates entitled to vote at the Conference. PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT DELEGATES MAY VOTE ONLY IF NAMES HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED TO SECRETARY PRIOR TO MEETING.

Section 4.2.4: If a delegate is disqualified or unable to attend, the squadron commander may appoint a substitute and notify the secretary prior to the convening of the meeting.



# MESSAGE FROM YOUR DISTRICT COMMANDER

## D/C GARY FERGUSON, JN

Want to have some fun? The “On the Water Training” program that has been taking place in the District recently is an absolute “hoot”. I was one of the lucky ones that took this in early February with members of Palm Beach and Pompano Beach squadrons. From the beginning classroom presentation to the on the water exercises, this program was “first class”, and made better by the professional instruction from P/R/C Dick Pfenniger, SN and P/V/C Spencer Anderson, SN.

In the class were members of various experiences in size of boats handled and number of years of experience and I think we all learned something from our training. It may have been that we have been doing many of these things for years and finally learned that we were doing it the correct way and just didn't know why it worked.

Pivot turns, driving backwards, using a range, man overboard, turning maneuvers, returning to a dock, leaving a dock, use of spring lines and duel function controls are just a few of the things offered in the water.

In the classroom, while I have not taken all the courses offered by USPS, this was one of the best designed and detailed slide presentations that I have ever seen from USPS.

There are too many items for me to cover here but I just want to urge all of you, if you get a chance to participate in this program you will have a great time and you will learn more than you think.



Charles Giambalvo at helm



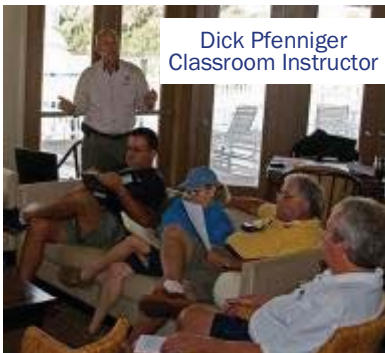
Man Overboard



Brian Moskowitz - High Speed Slalom

Oh by the way, did I “screw” up a few of the maneuvers...yep. Did I get razzed by my peers...you bet. It's all part of the fun experience.

Gary



Dick Pfenniger  
Classroom Instructor



Spencer Anderson & Rose Moskowitz



Gary Ferguson - Running a Range



Gary Ferguson - Reverse Slalom

# EDUCATION NEWS

Stf/C Al Bruhin, SN

## NEW NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL OFFICER



At the national meeting, V/C Bob Brandenstein, SN was elected the new National Educational Officer. He replaces P/V/C Bob Sweet, SN, who successfully led the Educational Department for the last three years.

## TRADEMARK

At the national meeting in Jacksonville there was some discussion about the ability of potential members to recognize USPS as a national educational organization. The issue seems to be that we are not consistent in how we identify ourselves with trademarks, etc. The National organization is working to determine how we can improve this by how we publish our information. Business card design and use of the USPS Ships Wheel are among the things being investigated. At the meeting a number of documents, posters and advertisements were shown and it was difficult to get the image of a single entity teaching the USPS courses.

## ONLINE COURSES

The primary advantage of USPS is having local squadrons and local instructors to deliver quality material to boaters. In order to get members, we need to emphasize face time with those who we train. In other words, we want people in the classroom. "The Department's highest priority is to increase the frequency of classroom courses and seminars and the number of students participating in them. Reversing the decline in classroom activity is a daunting challenge, particularly given the fact that DEOs and SEOs feel over-burdened and under-supported."

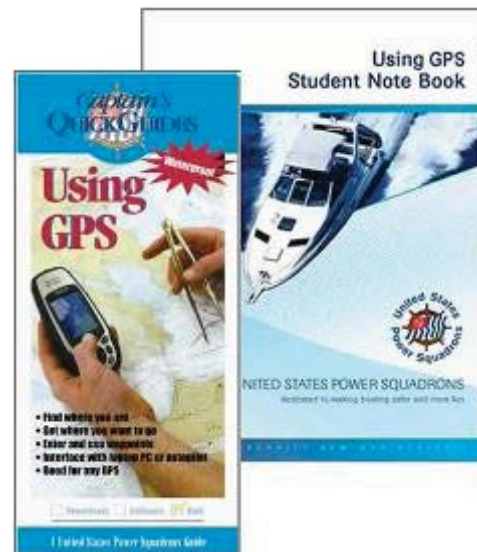
We also recognize that emerging boaters are of a generation that often favor e-Learning and self-paced learning. Together, we need to find ways to attract them while integrating them into the squadron and classroom. We need to offer material online and via direct sale to reach out to them and gain their attention. We also need tools to attract them into squadron life. This is one of the reasons we are developing on water training programs (something they cannot do online) and other hands-on programs. We are also looking at "blended learning" which merges online and self-study with classroom activities.

## CHAPMAN AWARD

It is again time to start thinking about the Chapman Award nominations from your squadron. As you know, it is the only way we can recognize the efforts of our dedicated instructors. Again this year I am going to request that we receive a nomination from every squadron. The forms and instructions are available on the Educational page of the USPS web site. Click on Chapman award on the left and from there you can get the instructions and forms. Headquarters will be sending forms to each SEO later in the year but by downloading the information now, you can get a head start on your submittal. You can expect me and the other bridge officers to follow up on this.

## SEMINAR

At the April District meeting Lt/C George Hehner, JN will present the GPS seminar. George is very knowledgeable on the ins and outs of the GPS system in the U.S. and has some very interesting information to communicate in the seminar. There will be limited seating available so if you are interested please let George know ASAP so your place can be reserved.



## EDUCATIONAL MEETING

There will be the usual Sunday morning SEO / ASEO meeting discussing the latest information from the Educational Department and discussions of special interest to members of the Educational Department. **All instructors and those interested in the educational process are invited.**



# MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

by D/Lt Mary Dodd, SN  
District 8 Recruiting Chairman

by D/Lt Denise A. Porter, JN  
District 8 Youth Activities Chairman

Your Membership Committee is working hard on preparing a great seminar for Saturday morning of the D8 Spring Conference. For details see page 15.

If this will be your First Time at a D8 conference, see page 15 for details on the First Timers Get Together.

Now for some information on Awards:

**"Doing It Right":** All but one squadron submitted the "Doing It Right" Survey. Ten of the squadrons answered yes to 16 questions and will be allowed to place the "Doing It Right" logo on their newsletter and website. These squadrons will be announced during the Conference.

**"Member Involvement Retention Award" (MIRA):** Your application for the MIRA is due to the D8 Member Involvement Chairman by 20 May 2012. This helps squadrons, districts and National to find out what your squadron is doing to obtain and retain new members and give other squadrons ideas on activities that work. You will soon be able to download the application from the National website: <http://www.usps.org/national/membership/other%20documents/Awards%20Programs.htm#MIRA> Award.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the D8 Conference.



L to R: Cdr Marjorie Baraff, AP and D/Lt Mary Dodd, SN  
at the USPS Annual Meeting awards presentations.

## USPS 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Boarman National Youth Poster Contest

USPS has kicked off the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Boarman National Youth Poster Contest and I am hoping that we will be able to have full participation from all squadrons in D8. In the past several years, we have had a national winner from a squadron in District 8, Vero Beach Power Squadron. Vero Beach, one of our largest and strongest squadrons in D8, has proven that involvement in the community is beneficial to all participating.

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Boarman Youth Poster contest is open to all children between the ages of 6 - 14. There will be three judging categories by age: Group 1 will be ages 6 to 8, Group 2 will be ages 9 to 11, and Group 3 will be ages 12 to 14. Each squadron should actively seek out organizations in their community to participate: art classes, Boy/Cub Scouts, Girl Scout/Brownie Troops, clubs, neighbors, family, friends, etc. Squadrons could make this a fun event inviting the participants and families to the voting and award ceremonies. Make it a community event and market USPS and all we are about. Finally, each squadron in D8 will submit their first, second and third place winners in each category to District for another voting round. The first place winners at District will go on to National Finals with winners being given a monetary award.

The contest theme for this year is **"Let's Boat Safe and Clean"**. Contest rules and registration forms will be forthcoming to your squadron commanders. **All poster entries will need to be submitted by 15 April 2012 for judging at our D8 Spring Conference, which will be held 27 April to 29 April.** Our goal is for 100% participation by the D8 squadrons as this would demonstrate our commitment to the community by advocating safe boating to our youth. For additional contest information please visit, <http://www.usps.org/national/membership/youth/poster.htm>. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at [daporterbps@aol.com](mailto:daporterbps@aol.com).

# REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

## 2012-2013 PROPOSED SLATE

In accordance with the Bylaws of District 8, Article 2, Section 2.9.1, Article 5, Section 5.5 and Article 6, Section 6.5; the USPS District 8 Nominating Committee submits the following proposed slate for election under Article 4, Section 4.3.1 at the 2012 Spring Conference, as called by D/C Gary Ferguson JN:

<b>Commander</b>	D/Lt/C John T. Doyle, SN ( <i>Pompano Beach</i> )
<b>Executive Officer</b>	D/Lt/C Diana G. Jackson, AP ( <i>Sebastian Inlet</i> )
<b>Educational Officer</b>	Stf/C Al C. Bruhin, SN ( <i>Port St. Lucie</i> )
<b>Asst Educational Officer</b>	D/1st/Lt Michael J. Knapp, AP ( <i>St. Lucie River</i> )
<b>Administrative Officer</b>	D/Lt Mary Dodd, SN ( <i>Palm Beach</i> )
<b>Secretary</b>	Lt/C Evelyn B. Northrup, AP ( <i>Coral Ridge</i> )
<b>Asst Secretary</b>	Cdr Joyce Newman, S ( <i>Palm Beach</i> )
<b>Treasurer</b>	R/C William R. Gillette, AP ( <i>Key West</i> )
<b>Asst Treasurer</b>	Cdr Marnie Sullivan, S ( <i>Sebastian Inlet</i> )

### Auditing Committee

(1 year)	P/D/C Albert C. Richard, JN ( <i>Miami</i> )
(2 years)	R/C Lee Popham, AP ( <i>Miami</i> )
(3 years)	Lt/C Jim Yaeger, SN ( <i>Ft. Lauderdale</i> )

### Nominating Committee

(1 year)	Lt/C Joseph J. Fadlovich, AP ( <i>Key West</i> )
(1 Year)	Lt/C Linda C. Sims, AP ( <i>Cutler Cove</i> )
(2 years)	P/D/C Lena J. Parsons, JN ( <i>Coral Ridge</i> )
(2 years)	P/C Daniel A. Thomas, SN ( <i>Vero Beach</i> )
(3 years)	D/C Gary L. Ferguson, JN ( <i>Palm Beach</i> )
(3 years)	R/C Lee Popham, AP ( <i>Miami</i> )

### Rules Committee

(1 year)	Chaplain Rodney G. Landsman, AP ( <i>Palm Beach</i> )
(2 years)	Stf/C Philip Arcuni, SN ( <i>Key West</i> )
(3 years)	P/N/F/Lt Frank E. Dougherty, Jr., AP ( <i>Sebastian Inlet</i> )

Respectfully submitted,

P/D/C Malischka M. Dunlap, AP, Chairman  
P/C William J. Schulke, P  
Lt/C Linda C. Sims, AP  
Lt/C Joseph J. Fadlovich, AP  
P/D/C Lena J. Parsons, JN  
P/C Daniel A. Thomas, SN

# FIVE NEWLY REVISED 2012 USPS MANUALS

Available for download from the National website

**OPERATIONS - SECRETARY'S - TREASURER'S  
MEMBERSHIP - SQUADRON DEVELOPMENT**

## DISTRICT 8 SUMMER RENDEZVOUS

# RESERVE THE DATE

**13-15 JULY 2012**

This is an advance notice of our District 8 Rendezvous that will be held on [13 - 15 July 2012](#) at the [Hyatt Regency Pier 66 Resort and Marina in Ft. Lauderdale.](#) We are finalizing the details and will publish contact names and phone numbers as they are certain.



Last year's Rendezvous was a huge success and this year will be even better, so put the above dates on your calendar, get your boat ready to join us, or save your pennies to reserve a beautiful room at the Pier 66 Resort and Marina.



P/C Dan Thomas, SN  
Boating Activities Chairman

## DAMAGE PREVENTION TIP OF THE MONTH

Reprinted with permission from USCGA Flotilla 34 Newsletter

### EXAMINE YOUR FUEL HOSES

A BoatU.S. member in Florida was replacing the engine filters on his boat recently when he noticed some cracks at the end of a fuel line. Thinking nothing of it, he cut off the end and was placing it on when a mechanic friend noticed more cracks farther down the hose. The two men then proceeded to examine all four of the fuel hoses and found that while much of it looked healthy, there were deep -- and dangerous -- cracks over some sections of each hose.

With only 458 hours on the engine, the obvious question was why were the hoses deteriorated so badly? Ethanol had been recently introduced into the area, but the hoses were each marked J 1527, which means they were designed to withstand up to 10% ethanol. The boat had been well cared for and was otherwise in terrific shape.

The boat owner sent a section of the hose to BoatU.S. After consulting with experts, it turns out the hose had been made in Malaysia, where quality varies and is sometimes iffy. (The country of origin must be stamped on any hose made outside the U.S.). Fuel hoses must be marked that they meet USCG and SAE J1527 standards, but manufacturers often self-certify to the USCG that the hose meets those standards. Some, but not all, companies that import hoses conduct tests.

According to experts, the best hoses are made in the U.S., Europe, and Japan. And while a hose's life expectancy varies, any hose over 10 years old is suspect and any over 20 years old should be replaced, regardless of its apparent condition. Bottom line: any fuel hose, regardless of its age, should be inspected annually. And any that are suspect should be replaced; the consequences of a failed hose are too dire to take chances.

Submitted by D/Lt/C Jack Doyle, JN



## DISTRICT 8 MEMBERS & FRIENDS DINNER IN JACKSONVILLE



## DISTRICT 8 MEMBERS RECEIVE LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD FROM C/C FRANK DVORAK, SN IN JACKSONVILLE

Ronald D. LaFontaine, AP



Albert C. Richard, JN



John R. Spilman, SN

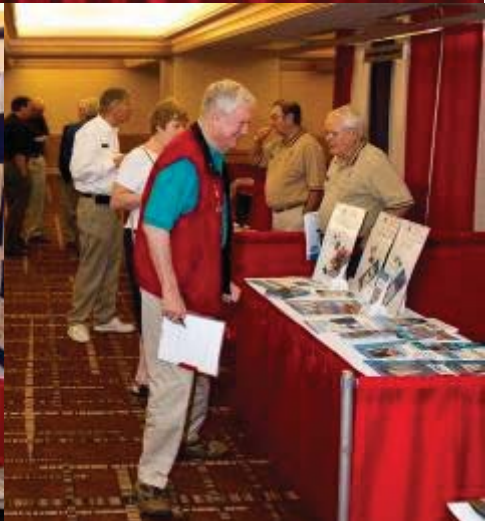




# SHIP'S STORE AND EXPO IN JACKSONVILLE



Has anyone read OM 12.52?





# DISTRICT 8 HOSPITALITY IN JACKSONVILLE





# USPS ANNUAL MEETING IN JACKSONVILLE



# USPS ANNUAL MEETING RECEPTION & BANQUET



# YOU WILL NOT BELIEVE THIS!

by D/Lt Phillip Bouckaert, D8 Homeland Security Officer

While serving as the District 8 Homeland Security Officer, I am included in many FEMA, Citizen Corps, and other related preparedness and security functions. While serving, I receive many email reports on happenings, functions, actions, etc. I would like to share a few notes from recent TSA (airport security) weekly reports. **NOTE, I DO NOT THINK YOU WILL BELIEVE WHAT THESE REPORTS STATE.**

**This was probably a boater** - A **FLARE GUN** with **SEVEN FLARES** was found in a passenger's carry-on bag at Norfolk (ORF). Another flare gun was found in a passenger's carry-on bag later in the week at Knoxville. Two MK-19 inert grenades were found in a carry-on bag at Manchester (MHT). The passenger stated they were "stocking stuffers." More inert grenades were found at Kansas City (MCI) Montgomery (MGM), and Savannah (SAV).

In addition to all of the other prohibited items we find weekly, our officers also found stun guns, throwing stars, realistic replica firearms, firearm components, butterfly knives, switchblades, an asp, an expandable baton, brass knuckles, ammunition, a 6 1/2" combat knife, a 7" butcher knife, cat eyes, and various other knives of different lengths larger than 3".

On the other hand, there are artfully concealed items... *Artfully concealed means that the prohibited item was intentionally concealed with the intention of sneaking it through security:*

A 4" knife was found concealed in a walking cane at San Diego (SAN). The passenger was extremely shocked it was there!

A box cutter was found hidden in the lining of a passenger's bag at Miami (MIA).

A .380 magazine with six rounds was found concealed in the lining of a passenger's carry-on bag at Gulfport (GPT).

A 15" sword cane was discovered at Northwest Florida Beaches (VPS) again... The passenger was shocked.

Two 6 1/2" throwing knives were found in a hollowed out book at Washington National (DCA).

A knife was found taped to the bottom of the handle of a passenger's carry-on bag at Indianapolis (IND).

A small knife was found concealed in an empty CD Rom drive at Peoria (PIA).

Our officers found 21 loaded firearms and 5 unloaded firearms in carry-on baggage this week. Here's a rundown of the 26 firearms our officers kept off of airplanes this week:

- **12/16:** SDF - Loaded .380 w/ Round Chambered - RSW - Unloaded .380 - MCO - Unloaded .25
- **12/17:** DTW - Loaded .40
- **12/18:** CMH - Loaded .357 - JAX - Loaded .380 w/ Round Chambered - COS - Unloaded .40 - DFW - Loaded .380 - ATL - Loaded .38
- **12/19:** MCO - Loaded pistol w/ Round Chambered
- **12/20:** TUL - Loaded .380 w/ Round Chambered - SEA - Unloaded .22 - PDX - Loaded .32 - RSW - Loaded .380 - DFW - Loaded .380 w/ Round Chambered
- **12/21:** PHL - Loaded .25 w/ Round Chambered - TYS - Loaded 9mm - ATL - Loaded .380 w/ Round Chambered - AUS - Loaded 9mm - SAT - Unloaded .380
- **12/22:** ELP - Loaded .32 - AUS - Loaded .357 - RSW - Loaded .380 - FLL - Loaded 9mm w/ Round Chambered - LIT - Loaded .380 - IAH - Loaded .40 w/ Round Chambered

**Firearms:** Our officers found 14 loaded firearms and 5 unloaded firearms in carry-on baggage since I posted last Friday. Here's a rundown of the 19 firearms our officers kept off of airplanes this week:

- **12/31:** SGU - Loaded .380 - HDN - Loaded .45 w/ Round Chambered
- **1/1:** SLC - Loaded .380
- **1/2:** LFT - Loaded .38 - SFO - Loaded .25 w/ Round Chambered - SFO - Unloaded .22
- **1/3:** IAH - Loaded .38 - DFW - Unloaded .38
- **1/4:** PHX - Loaded .380 - ONT - Loaded .45 - ORD - Unloaded .45 - AUS - Loaded .40 w/ Round Chambered - ORD - Unloaded 9mm
- **1/5:** MDW - Unloaded Firearm - OKC - Loaded .22 w/ Round Chambered - PHX - Loaded 9mm - SJC - Loaded .40 w/ Round Chambered - LIT - Loaded .38 - LGB - Loaded .380

INTERESTING ??? This is something I would not expect in this day and time. NOTE, we do not read about this in our daily NEWS. Is it we do not care about our security or where our Leadership is taking us and our safety? You can sign up to get the weekly TSA Blog at: [TSA@service.govdelivery.com](mailto:TSA@service.govdelivery.com). Thanks for reading and keep safe BY being **PREPARED.**



# VESSEL SAFETY CHECK CORNER

By D/Lt Allan B. Furtado, SN

In the past I spent some time talking about two neglected items on your boat - batteries and your fire extinguishers. This time I would like to bring to your attention your navigation lights.

You may think that this statement is somewhat funny but when was the last time you checked your navigation lights? You never go out at night so you don't need to check them huh? Not so fast Captain. Your navigation lights are a safety item just like your life jackets, flares, and horn. They need to be functional at all times "in case you need them".

Case in point, if you are stopped by a Coast Guard vessel or local Sheriff's vessel, they will want to see the lights working. Since we don't use them all the time, they are forgotten and put on the back burner so to speak.

With the salt air environment that the navigation lights live in, they sometimes develop corrosion on the contacts between the light bulb and the electrical contact in the navigation light base. If this is neglected it will eventually cause the light not to function. I would suggest that all lights be "routined" at least once a year. Preferably, this should be done in the spring when the boat first goes in the water after being stored during the winter. If the boat has been stored in the water all winter, it increases the chance of the lights failure.

To "routine" the lights, first turn them on and look at each light. There will be a red light on the port side of the boat and a green light on the starboard side of your boat. Sometimes they are combined to a single fixture on the bow of small boats with a dual color lens. If this is the case, it is more probable that the light will not work due to sea water splashing over the fixture during the boating season. If it works, fine you're done with this light.

If it doesn't work, simply take off the cover and check the bulb. Test the bulb with an ohm meter to make sure the bulb is good. Clean the contacts of the bulb with a clean cloth or small brush. Check the contacts in the socket and if they are corroded use a fine emery cloth to polish them. Apply a small amount of Lithium grease on the contacts before returning the bulb to the socket. Prior to replacing the cover turn on the light and see if it works now. If it works, reinstall the lens cover and all is well. If not, you might have an electrical problem that you would want to have a boating electrician look into.

Do this for each navigation light. In addition to the "port and starboard" lights there will be a steaming light (one facing forward), a stern light (one facing to the rear) and an anchor light. On some vessels the steaming light and stern light are built together. It might also serve as an anchor light as well. However when the anchor light is turned on the "port and starboard" lights should go off. On some vessels the stern light will be on the transom. Remember to look there, too.

On some smaller boats the steaming/stern/anchor light might be on a pole that is plugged into a socket near the rear of the vessel. Sometimes this socket and or the contacts on the pole will corrode and they too should be cleaned and greased.

Well now, you have tested and "routined" your navigation lights and your boat is ready to head out. One more thing I would ask you, have you had your Free Vessel Safety Check this year? If not, why not?



## NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK

19 - 25 MAY 2012

Start planning your squadron's events NOW.



All of your campaign materials including the order form for your free resources will be available only from the website, [www.safeboatingcampaign.com](http://www.safeboatingcampaign.com). Look under "Campaign Resources" to order your informational materials, and check out "Communications" to view press releases, the 2012 NSBW Proclamation, and to download PSAs and Graphics.

# WILL THE COAST GUARD FIND YOU WHEN YOU PUSH THAT RED BUTTON ON YOUR VHF RADIO?

by D/Lt Thomas R. Nolan, SN, DRT0

The new DSC (Digital Selective Call) enabled *Rescue 21* system is a great development for boating safety along the U.S. Coast. That little red button on our VHF radios (which activates the DSC system) is designed to take the “search” out of “search and rescue” by providing the Coast Guard with our vessel’s description, owner information and its GPS location.

Sadly the Coast Guard is reporting that over 60% of the DSC alerts they receive contain no information at all about the vessel. This makes it difficult for the Coast Guard to know what type of vessel is in trouble or where it is located. The concern is that many boaters who purchase a DSC VHF radio never obtain a MMSI (Mobile Maritime Service Identity) number or interconnect their VHF radio to a GPS on their boat.

I would urge all squadrons to make their membership aware of this situation and to ask them to obtain a MMSI number and have their VHF radio interfaced with their GPS. The MMSI application forms could be distributed at a chapter meeting. Once obtained, it would also be a good idea to include the member’s MMSI information in your squadron’s membership roster. As most of you know the DSC system can also be used to digitally “call” another vessel in a non-emergency situation. It would be prudent to practice non-emergency DSC calling between vessels when engaged in squadron activities to become more familiar with the system. If at all possible I would like to know the percentage of vessels in each squadron’s fleet that have 1.) MMSI numbers and 2.) Have their DSC radio interfaced with the GPS. Perhaps District 8 could lead this effort.

Further information is available here:

US Coast Guard Safety Alert: [http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/pdf/marcomms/dsc/04\\_11\\_dsc.pdf](http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/pdf/marcomms/dsc/04_11_dsc.pdf)  
US Power Squadrons MMSI info: <http://www.usps.org/php/mmsi/home.php>  
US Coast Guard Nav DSC info: <http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/?pageName=mtDsc>  
Boat US DSC Radio tutorial: <http://www.boatus.com/foundation/dsc/player.html>

## DON'T DRINK & BOAT 1 IN 5 BOATING DEATHS ALCOHOL-RELATED

Submitted by D/Lt/C John T. Doyle, SN from the July 2011 *USPS Compass*

If you’re planning to go boating this weekend, you’ll be safer if you leave the beer at home.

The U.S. Coast Guard’s annual report, [Recreational Boating Statistics](#), shows that a boat operator or passenger with a blood alcohol content above the legal limit has an increased risk of getting into a boating accident. Here’s why:

- Sun, wind, noise, vibration and motion—stressors common to the boating environment—intensify the effects of alcohol, drugs and some medications by causing fatigue, which impairs a boater’s balance, coordination and reaction time.
- As blood alcohol level goes up, the ability to process information, assess dangerous situations and exercise sound judgment becomes difficult.
- Peripheral vision, depth perception, night vision, focus and the ability to distinguish colors, particularly red and green, are reduced.

Alcohol reduces inhibitions and brings on a false sensation of physical warmth, which could cause a person to enter or remain in cold water until hypothermia sets in.

With these impairments, accidents are more likely and more deadly for passengers and boat operators. Alcohol is a factor in nearly 1 in 5 recreational boating fatalities; Coast Guard data show that in more than half of these cases, the victims capsized their boats or simply fell overboard.

For more information and tips on boating safety, visit [www.uscgboating.org](http://www.uscgboating.org)



# DISTRICT 8 SPRING CONFERENCE PREVIEW

BOCA RATON MARRIOTT  
27 April – 29 April 2012

Mark your calendars now for a great weekend with all your friends from the fifteen D8 squadrons. There will be something of interest for everyone. Your District Bridge especially encourages all squadron commanders who work so hard for your squadron to join other squadron members at the spring conference with the same goals and dedication to USPS. **A special welcome to First Timers!** Make your plans and reservations EARLY to join us.

It all starts on Friday afternoon with the District Council meeting at 1500. Then the evening festivities begin with some squadron hospitality rooms followed by the Theme Dinner Dance, **“Puttin’ on the Ritz”**. Dress up or dress down; it’s all about a fun night that will be a true delight. Prizes and awards for best dressed, most original, Fred Astaire look-a-like, etc. Kodak moments of this evening for all attendees. Back by popular demand, enjoy an encore performance of the Frank Wilson Orchestra. Frank got everyone out of their seats and dancing to his music at the fall conference.

On Saturday from 0800-1000, stop by the Palm Beach Café hosted by the Palm Beach SPS.

Add to your USPS and general boating knowledge and have fun doing it, by attending one or more of the seminars/workshops that take place between 0900 and 1200 on Saturday. Just check out the reviews and seminar descriptions on the right and on the next page.

After lunch on your own, attend the District Conference meeting starting at 1330. The chief commander’s representative, our own R/C Lee Popham, AP, will share the chief’s message with the membership. The many awards D8 received at the USPS Annual Meeting and other D8 awards will be presented. You won’t want to miss the election and installation of the new 2012-2013 district bridge and committee members.

The D/C’s Reception will be held from 1700 - 1830 in the Concierge Room on the 11th floor prior to the Change of Watch dinner dance honoring the outgoing district commander for all his achievements during his watch and introducing the new district commander and his goals and objectives for 2012 – 2013. The Frank Wilson orchestra will provide the dance music for this special evening.

The “Squadron Officers’ meeting” and the “Educational Department meeting” will be held on Sunday morning.

This is your conference, come out and join us, have fun and show your support for USPS and District 8.

D/Lt/C Jack Doyle, SN



## FIRST TIMERS GET TOGETHER

Come to the Palm Beach Cafe for coffee at 0830 on Saturday morning. There you will meet our D/C Gary Ferguson, JN and the Chief’s Representative R/C Lee Popham, AP and other members of the District.

If this will be your first time at a District 8 Conference, please contact me at [mtdodd@att.net](mailto:mtdodd@att.net) and let me know, so we can get a count of first timers attending.

D/Lt Mary Dodd, SN  
D8 Recruiting Chairman

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## “ON THE WATER TRAINING” UPDATE SEMINAR

Come to the "On the Water Training" update Seminar. We will cover On the Water Training with our Courses, Boat Operator Certification, Boat Operator Certification Certifier, Boat Operator Certifier Trainer and Practical On the Water Training. Like our slogan, "Boating is Fun.... We'll show you how". Our discussion will help your squadron to be able to use these programs. These programs will help your squadron enhance your Educational program and get new members.

P/R/C Richard C.Pfenniger, SN

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## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE SEMINAR

Get the latest “How To Tools” and ideas for Recruiting and Retention and learn about the great Member Benefits currently available (which is a great recruiting tool). Discuss questions you may have, help you would like to see from District, and your squadron's success stories. So come prepared. Looking forward to seeing you there.

D/Lt Mary Dodd, SN  
D8 Recruiting Chairman

# DISTRICT 8 SPRING CONFERENCE PREVIEW

## GPS SEMINAR

On Saturday Lt/C George Hehner, SN will present the GPS seminar. George is very knowledgeable on GPS systems and how the satellite system works. He has presented this seminar to the public and received rave reviews.

This seminar explains the principles of waypoint navigation and shows you how to relate the GPS to your charts. The seminar also shows you how to operate your GPS - what the buttons do, what the screens show, and how to access the functions you need. You'll also get some tips for choosing a GPS if you don't currently own one. The waterproof McGraw-Hill Captain's Quick Guide Using GPS is included to take aboard to remind you of the steps, or to show another of your crew how to use your GPS.

The seminar will cost \$25 and the seating is limited. Contact George ( [uhehner@aol.com](mailto:uhehner@aol.com) ) or Al Bruhin ( [Bruhina@cs.com](mailto:Bruhina@cs.com) ) for reservations.

## HISTORIAN WORKSHOP

What is the point of filing a squadron historian's report? Nothing is done with the information! It is a waste of time and effort!

Come and learn how easy it is to file a report using DB2000 and how the reports are going to be used in the future.

Learn more about the plans to make the Historian Committee relevant in today's digital age.

R/C Peter Mitchelson, SN  
Assistant National Secretary

## VESSEL SAFETY CHECK WORKSHOP

All members are welcome. This will be a general discussion that encourages the group to participate in the Vessel Safety Check program.

The subject will be the experiences that our Vessel Examiners have encountered while performing VSCs. This is to encourage new participation in the program and share various experiences fellow VEs have had.

For our VEs, new Paddle Boat VSC forms and the new Paddle Boat Decals will be distributed and various other supplies will also be available to fill the VEs needs.

D/Lt Allan B. Furtado, SN  
D8 Safety/VSC Chairman

## KICK START YOUR SQUADRON'S PR BETTER IMAGE, MORE MEMBERS....

At the Saturday morning's 0900-1000 seminar, you'll be treated to an overview of the public relations function and how it can help you in your squadron. Whatever your goals, you'll learn how to activate public relations, publicity and other promotional programs. Bring examples of successful programs to share with other members. Find out what's new with National's Marketing and Public Relations Committee. You'll also learn how homeland security endeavors can bolster your awareness efforts. A highlight of this seminar will be an update on the most recent USPS initiative with the Coast Guard Auxiliary, something everyone should be aware of and participate in. Be there!

P/R/C William E. Husted, SN  
D8 Public Relations Officer

## CO-OP CHARTING SEMINAR

Small Craft Facilities are marinas, boatyards, and other marine facilities that service small nautical craft. They are located on the coast and intra-coastal waterways of the U.S. and its possessions, and the Great Lakes. They appear on Small Craft charts, Great Lakes charts, and in Coast Pilot publications. These facilities vary in size from tiny ones with a small dock to ones that house many boats and offer a wide range of features and services. It is important for operators of small nautical craft to be able to become aware of the location and services provided by these facilities, hence, the inclusion of these facilities on appropriate NOS charts. Due to budgetary stringencies, NOS no longer performs Small Craft Facility surveys. Currently, USPS is, by far, the principal supplier to NOS of updated information on them.



This is just one of the programs D8 squadrons currently participate in. Several of the D8 squadrons are currently doing facility reviews. We would like to invite you to come and see how we review these different facilities at the D8 Spring conference. The workshop will also review "CCWeb" which is the data entry program for most Coop Charting activities. Depth surveys will also be discussed and reviewed.

D/Lt Bill Heimbaugh, S  
D8 Cooperative Charting Chairman





# DISTRICT 8 SPRING CONFERENCE 27 APRIL - 29 APRIL 2012

Marriott at Boca Center, 5150 Town Center Cir Boca Raton FL 33486

Room Rate: \$119.00 (including Buffet Breakfast) **Deadline for Rate - 13 April 2012**  
Call: 1-888-888-3780 Online: [www.marriott.com/pbibr](http://www.marriott.com/pbibr) Group Code: PSQPSQA

## FRIDAY 27 APRIL 2012

1400-1630 USPS® Registration

1500-1630 Spring Council

1845-2230 Reception/Cash Bar

1930-2230 "Puttin' on the Ritz"

## SATURDAY 28 APRIL 2012

0800-1000 Palm Beach Café

0830-0900 "1st Timers" Meet & Greet

0900-1000 Completing the Squadron Historian Form

0900-1000 Public Relations Orientation Seminar

0900-1100 GPS Seminar

0900-1000 Vessel Safety Check/Safety Workshop

1000-1200 Co-op Charting "Depth Wiz" Seminar

1000-1200 Tools for recruitment/Member Involvement

1030-1130 "On The Water Training" Update

1330-1600 Conference

1900-2230 Reception/Cash Bar

1930-2230 Banquet

## SUNDAY 29 APRIL 2012

0830-1030 Squadron Officers Meeting

0830-1130 Educational Dept Meeting

## FRIDAY EVENING "PUTTIN' ON THE RITZ": \$ 39.95

*Choice of Entrée:*

*Pan-Seared Chicken Breast*      *Pork Loin*  
*with Red Wine Sauce*

*Roasted Red Bliss Potatoes*  
*with Maple Vinegar Jus*

*Chef's Seasonal Vegetables*

*All Meals Served with:*

*Salad & Chef's Choice of Dessert*

## SATURDAY BANQUET: \$ 39.95

*Choice of Entrée:*

*Classic Chicken Piccata*      *Pork Loin*  
*Lemon, Capers & White Wine Sauce*      *in a Demi Glace*

*Garlic Mash Potato*  
*Chef's Seasonal Vegetables*

*All Meals Served with:*

*Salad & Chef's Choice of Dessert*

## UNIFORMS OF THE DAY:

### FRIDAY:

Daytime ..... USPS Casual or Suitable Attire

Evening ..... "Puttin' on the Ritz" Theme

### SATURDAY:

Daytime ..... Uniform G or Suitable Attire

Evening ..... Uniform A (with bow tie) or Suitable Attire

### SUNDAY:

Daytime ..... USPS Casual or Suitable Attire

Complete and mail reservation form to: Stf/C John A Belkengren, AP, 1415 Truman Ave, Key West FL 33040

**Note: Meal reservations and check must be received by 20 April 2012**

DISTRICT 8 SPRING CONFERENCE MEAL RESERVATION					FRI		SAT		TOTAL
CERT NO	RANK	NAME	GRADE	FIRST TIMER? Y OR N	\$39.95		\$39.95		
					CHICKEN	PORK	CHICKEN	PORK	
I enclose a check (made payable to District 8) for									\$

SQUADRON:

EMAIL:

## CHIEF COMMANDER'S REPRESENTATIVE

R/C WM LEE POPHAM, AP



R/C Lee and his wife, P/C Eva, live in South Miami, Florida, and are members of the Miami Sail and Power Squadron. Lee was born in Washington, D.C., but has lived in Miami since childhood. Eva was born and raised in Sweden, having moved to Miami in 1991. Lee and Eva joined the Everglades Power Squadron (D8) in 2002, where Lee served as commander in 2003, and Eva served as commander in 2004 and 2005. Lee began serving on the District 8 bridge in 2004, and was elected District Commander in 2006 – before achieving Senior Member status! Everglades Sail & Power Squadron merged with two other Miami-area squadrons in 2008, retaining the 1939 Charter of the Miami Sail & Power Squadron.

Lee's squadron and district activities have included his service as an instructor in the Public Boating, Seamanship, Piloting, Advanced Piloting, Cruise Planning, Squadron Officer Training Seminar (OTS), and Marine Electronics courses. Most recently, Lee has qualified as an instructor in the Boat Operator Certification (BOC) courses for USPS on-the-water training. He has also previously qualified as a USPS Certified Instructor, a Vessel Examiner, a USPS Port Captain, and as a member of the Cooperative Charting Honor Roll – having once ranked as high as No. 10 in the nation in Cooperative Charting credits. Through the Sea Scouts training programs, Lee has served on the instructor staff of the SeaBadge Adult Leadership Conference (a three-day regional program), as a course director of the Sea Scout Experience Advanced Leadership (SEAL) Training – a 9-day-at-sea youth leadership training program, and as the co-author and course director of the SeaBadge Underway – an adult leader training program concentrating on seamanship, boat handling, emergency preparedness, and coastal navigation skills (a four-day-at-sea regional course). He has served on the squadron Finance, Nominating, and Executive committees, and on the district Planning, Budget and Finance, Nominating, and Audit committees. Lee was a recipient of the USPS National Lifesaving Award in 2008.

At the National level, Lee has served on the Membership, Boating Activities, Squadron Activities, and Finance committees. As a member of the Membership Committee, Lee became the first USPS National Sea Scout Liaison, where he also presently serves as a volunteer member of the National Sea Scout Support Committee for the Boy Scouts of America. He was also the proposer of the USPS P/C/C Raymond A. Finley, Jr., SN Sea Scout Service Award, which is one of only two BSA Community Service awards that can be awarded to both Adult and Youth recipients, and which promotes active participation in the USPS-Sea Scout Partnership. He has been elected by the Governing Board to the National Finance Committee in each of the past eight years, and now serves as Chairman. He is a Senior Member, currently also serving as Miami SPS Educational Officer (SEO) and a member of the District 8 Audit Committee, with 10 Merit Marks.

Lee is a graduate of Duke University in Durham, North Carolina, with a double major in Management Sciences and Accounting. He obtained his Juris Doctorate (JD) degree from the University of Miami School of Law, while working full time as a Certified Public Accountant in Miami. Lee is a former partner of the KPMG Peat Marwick international CPA firm, and has extensive experience as a Corporate and Real Estate acquisition and planning consultant, and as a Financial Operations Executive for public acquisition and investment companies and joint ventures. Eva is a Swedish Engineering graduate, and obtained her Bachelor of Accounting degree from Florida International University. She is a Regional Accounting Manager at AECOM, an international provider of architectural and engineering consulting services. Eva serves as a member of the Miami SPS Executive Committee, and has 10 Merit Marks.

Lee has four adult children, and together Lee and Eva have two more children living at home. Their third grandchild is expected in September. Lee started working nights at a gas station, in order to be able to purchase his first boat at the age of 15 – before he was old enough to get a driver's license! Lee and Eva are currently a two-boat family. They have a 13' Boston Whaler named GIG and their flagship is TRIDENT, a 45-foot Viking convertible sportfisher that has logged 5,000+ cruising miles since 2004.

We look forward to welcoming Lee in his official capacity as the chief commander's representative and his wife, Eva at our spring conference this April.



## BOOSTERS

**P/Lt/C Katherine Allen**  
**P/C Darryl and Joan Aubrey**  
 Shirley Becker

Stf/C John Belkengren & R/C William Gillette  
 P/D/C Reinhard & Ruth Bruderer  
 Stf/C Al and Pat Bruhin

Coral Ridge Sail and Power Squadron  
 D/Lt Art and D/Lt Mary Dodd  
**P/N/F/Lt Frank and Kathy Dougherty**  
 D/Lt/C Jack and Judy Doyle  
 D/C Gary Ferguson

**P/R/C Ronald & Lt/C Helena Friedman**  
 Ft. Lauderdale Power Squadron  
**D/Lt Shirley and P/C Michael Haines**

P/D/C Marlene and P/C Michael Herbig  
 Key West Sail & Power Squadron  
 National Chaplain Rodney & Lt Sandy Landsman  
**P/C Janet and Lt Harold Leh**  
 OceanGrafix

Palm Beach Sail and Power Squadron  
**P/D/C Lena J. Parsons**

P/R/C Richard & D/Lt/C Doris Pfenniger  
**Lt/C Eunice Pollock & P/C Dean Jackson**  
 Pompano Beach Power Squadron  
**R/C Lee & P/C Eva Popham**  
**Lt/C Clifford Scholz**

P/D/C Gloria & P/C William Schulke  
 Sebastian Inlet Sail & Power Squadron  
**St. Lucie River Power Squadron**  
 Vero Beach Power Squadron

**If your name is in RED, it is renewal time!**

**Thank You All!**

**D/Lt Shirley Haines, S, Booster Chairman**



## BE A BOOSTER!

### D/8 "PIECES OF EIGHT" BOOSTER

Enclosed is my tax deductible check in the amount of \$30.00 payable to D/8 USPS.

Return to: R/C William Gillette, 1415 Truman Ave, Key West, FL 33040-

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

SQUADRON: \_\_\_\_\_

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

27 - 29 Apr	D8 Spring Council & Conference Marriott, Boca Raton, FL
19 - 25 May	National Safe Boating Week
13 - 15 Jul	D8 Summer Rendezvous Pier 66, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
5 - 9 Sep	USPS Governing Board Detroit, MI
21 - 23 Sep	D8 Fall Council & Conference Marriott, Boca Raton, FL

## IMPORTANT DEADLINES

13 April	Room reservations for Spring Conference
20 April	Meal reservations for Spring Conference
10 May	Submissions for <i>Pieces of Eight</i>

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