

PIECES OF EIGHT

Official Publication of District 8, United States Power Squadrons

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

WINTER 2014



IN THIS ISSUE:

- 2 District 8 Bridge Officers Call to Spring Council & Conference
- 3-7 Message from your District Commander
- 8 Education News
- 9-10 Administrative Department
- 10 Fort Lauderdale Boat Show
- 11 Chapman Award for Excellence in Teaching
- 12 Vessel Safety Check
- 13 Welcome Aboard New Members
- 14 D8 75th Anniversary Flag Ceremony
- 15 Executive Department
- 15 USPS 18th Annual Boarman National Youth Poster Contest
- 16 Booster & Calendar of Events

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2015 ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, January 18, 2015 - Sunday, January 25, 2015 Jacksonville, FL

14 December 2014 is the deadline for Discounted Meal Packages and other meeting activities.

Hotel Information: Hyatt Jacksonville Riverfront This is the main meeting Hotel

Hotel Web Site

225 East Coastline Dr Jacksonville FL 32202 Telephone: (888) 421-1442 (904) 588-1234

Rate: \$139.00

Presentation of D8 Flag to C/C Robert Baldridge, SN



C/C Robert Baldridge,SN

D/C Mary Dodd, SN

DISTRICT 8 BRIDGE OFFICERS

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PIECES OF EIGHT

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BOOSTERS

D/Lt John W. Northrup, AP

DISTRICT 8 WEB SITE www.uspsd8.org

CALL TO THE SPRING COUNCIL

Per District 8 Bylaws Article 5, Section 5.2 and 5.3, District Commander Mary Dodd, SN has called the Spring Council meeting for 1400 on Friday, 24 April 2015 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.

Photos in this issue by

D/Lt Art Dodd, SN

Palm Beach Sail & Power Squadron

CALL TO THE SPRING CONFERENCE

In accordance with the provisions of Article 5 of District 8 Bylaws, District Commander Mary Dodd, SN 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, 25 April 2015 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 SUBMITED 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 Mary Dodd, SN

September was a busy month, starting with the Governing Board Meeting that was held at the Hyatt Regency at Crystal City in Arlington, Virginia and ending with the Fall Council and Conference which was also the start of D8's 75th Anniversary Celebration.

Governing Board Meeting







The Governing Board Meeting was held 10-14 September 2014. District 8 won 1st Place for P/C/C William Selden IV Member Involvement Retention Award. Thank you to D/Lt Mag Mangold, N and D/Lt/C AI Furtado, SN for submitting the application. I would also like to thank the following squadrons who submitted their applications: Homestead Power Squadron, St Lucie River Power Squadron, Sebastian Inlet Sail and Power Squadron and Vero Beach Power Squadron. Vero Beach won second place in the Charles Chapman Scrapbook Award and second place in the Public Service Announcement (PSA) Award.





We had an interesting Meet and Greet. The suites were so small we had to hold it in two separate suites. Luckily my District Flag Officer Gloria Schulke, JN and D/Lt Marlene Herbig, SN had the suite next to Art and me. The food was served in one room and the drinks in the other. Thank you P/Lt/C Jan Furtado, AP for doing a great job at directing traffic. We had over 100 people visit our suite. I would like to thank Cdr William Eldridge, SN who did a great job as bartender, Lt Kathy Eldridge, for her food planning and shopping, setting up the rooms and keeping things organized, D/F/Lt Gloria Schulke, JN and D/Lt Marlene Herbig, SN for allowing us to use their room and setting up the food room and arranging furniture to help the through traffic, 1st /D/Lt Joyce Newman, S and Jim DeArmond, P/D/C Lena Parsons, JN; Rosalie Goebel, and Cdr Doris Pfenniger, P and Stf/C Dick Pfenniger. SN for their help with the hospitality and driving hospitality items up and back.

DISTRICT 8 FALL COUNCIL AND CONFERENCE (CON'T) D/C Mary Dodd, SN

C/C Robert Baldridge, SN gave his own message as Chief Representative. It was great to have Nancy and him help us celebrate our 75th Anniversary. The Chief presented the follow awards: 50 Year Membership Award to:

• P/N/F/Lt Frank Dougherty, Jr. AP



- P/C Robert R. Padron, JN
- NBF/USPS Excellence in Recreational Boating Award: Hollywood Power Squadron (1st place)
 and Port St Lucie (2nd place)
- P/C/C William Selden IV MIRA Award: 1st Place District Award was awarded to D8
- Charles Chapman Scrapbook Award 2nd place was awarded to Vero Beach
- Public Service Announcement Award (PSA) 2nd place was awarded to Vero Beach





MESSAGE FROM YOUR DISTRICT COMMANDER (CON'T) D/C Mary Dodd, SN

While at the Governing Board, we learned that the 2015 Annual Meeting will be in Jacksonville and that the 2016-2018 Annual Meeting will be in Orlando. National dues will be going up \$2 for single membership and \$3.00 for a Family Unit. Instead of the paper membership card, National is going to a permanent plastic card membership card. They also gave a workshop on how to look and act when you represent USPS at a Boat Show and other functions; i.e., no checkered golf shorts nor should you drink beer while representing the United States Power Squadron at the booth. V/C Louis Ojeda, SN did a great presentation on what not to do at a boat show.



District 8 was also able to take a group picture.



DISTRICT 8 FALL COUNCIL AND CONFERENCE (CON'T) D/C Mary Dodd, SN

The District 8 Fall Council and Conference was held on 26-28 September 2014.

During the Fall Council we tried something new for the squadron commander's report. We asked them to say one item they were proud of and one concern. It seemed to work well based on people that I talked to after the meeting.

Thank you to Pompano Beach Power Squadron, Homestead Power Squadron, Sebastian Inlet Sail and Power Squadron and Port St Lucie Power Squadron and all the Past District Commanders who hosted the Friday Night Hospitalities and thank you to Palm Beach Sail and Power Squadron for hosting the Commander's Hospitality on Saturday night.

Along with the usual workshops on Saturday Morning, there was a mini expo. At the expo was the "Boating Skills Virtual Trainer" where attendees could try their skills at docking and other maneuvers, a Secretary Table, a great history video of D8 done by D/Lt Arthur Dodd, SN, Video from Vero Beach and Sebastian. Squadron Development and Vessel Safety Check also had tables. Outside the Expo, St Lucie River squadron brought their booth that they use at boat shows and similar functions. At the Expo, C/C Baldridge, SN got to try the "Boating Skills Virtual Trainer" for the first time.



During the conference meeting the Deputy Mayor of Boca Raton presented a proclamation to D8 to celebrate our 75th Anniversary.



DISTRICT 8 FALL COUNCIL AND CONFERENCE (CON'T) D/C Mary Dodd, SN

The Saturday Night Dinner started the Celebration of D8's 75th Anniversary with the honoring of the Past District Commanders and Past District Lieutenant Commanders, Cutting of the Cake Ceremony and a Special Flag Ceremony where the Squadron Centennial Ceremonial Streamers were taken off the 100 Anniversary Ensign and given back to the squadrons. During the year District 8 Bridge Officers will be visiting District 8 squadrons and having the Centennial Ceremonial Streamers put on the new District 8 Flag with the platinum border. At the Fall 2015 Conference Dinner, the streamers will be given back to the squadron. Commanders, if you haven't given Jon Bensman the date(s) please contact him ASAP so we can be sure there is a bridge officer available for your special event.





EDUCATION NEWS Stf/C Richard C. Pfenniger, SN

There are some changes taking place in the USPS educational program. Some we like and some we do not like. As you know, cost of almost everything has been going up, the same has been happening to the cost of our educational materials; ink, paper, transportation and etc. Effective 1 December 2014 all educational material except for the ABC course will be increased by 10 %. USPS only has 2 sources of income — dues and sale of educational material.

Over 6,000 people have gone through the cyber squadron. Average age is high 40's and even with the six months trial membership, few remain members. Efforts are underway to see what can be done to get younger people to become members. Interesting, the average age of members who take Seamanship is 55. Half of our members take no courses.

National has a \$80,000 short fall in the budget. This is being addressed in several ways. Cutting hours of Headquarters personnel, cutting travel expenses, raising cost of materials and etc.

Some of the other possible changes are a registration fee for all courses, seminars, a fee for retest, going to more e books, unbundling the price of books from the cost of the course, and a fee for somebody who wants to take the course without buying course materials.

For the ABC Classes, only the lead instructor needs to be a certified Instructor. Assistant instructors only need to be approved by the SEO.

You are encouraged to use the ON-THE-WATER training programs. This includes POWT, Power Boat Handling for members, and the on the water training supplements with each course. The question of insurance is really simple. If the training is one of the listed programs and notice is made of the training, it is covered. If you want to do something else, you need to write to R/C Scott McDonald, SN to get approval. We should do it as it gets our members involved and it is FUN. The question of boats should not be a problem. The only program that has boat size and types is the POWT. All other exercise are on any type or size of boat. When possible, use the students boat.

The newest thing is the Virtual Trainer. There are five out now for use and soon that number will go to 13. If you have not had a chance to use it, it is great and fun. They are ready for use by the squadrons. To get the Virtual Trainer you need to reserve it by going to www.usps.org/phb/bsvt. The squadron will need to pay for transportation. When all the units are in and up dated they will be placed in Regions. This should really make the cost of transportation very small, just some gas. It is a great draw at Boat Shows.

The educational awards for D8 were not all won by a single squadron this year. Sebastian Inlet under the leadership of Mag won all but two. Pompano Beach won the Meyer Award and the new On Water Training Award.

Sabad Educational Achievement Award: first place Sebastian Inlet, SEO D/Lt David Mangold, N, Accepting

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT D/Lt/C Allan Furtado, SN

The days are getting shorter, and the temperature is cooling off, and that means the Snow Birds will soon be returning to Sunny Southern Florida. Some will be our members returning to their home or home away from home squadron; others will be potential new members. As the winter boating season heats up, now is the time to promote Boating Education which is the main source of membership to our squadrons.

During this summer's push for membership, the SailAngle distributed "101 tips of the day". I forwarded these tips to each of District 8 Squadron's membership chair to insure everyone received them. If every squadron only picks out 2 or 3 of these tips and uses these as tools to recruit, the possibilities are endless. For example Tip #7 "Every squadron needs an active website providing information about educational and recreational opportunities, activities, history, photographs, leadership, member benefits, contact persons, links to newsletters, links to district and national websites, etc." If your squadron does not have a web page, you are missing a great opportunity. Also, if your Squadron does have a web page, it must be kept current.

If anyone wishes to recap all 100 of the Tips, go to: http://www.sailangle.com/uploads/group/files/2138/37cb7a2eb85a_101%20tip%20of%20the%20day%20revised.docx.

Education and training is not only for our boating public but for our members as well. Each and every one of us should download the Operations Training manual (http://www.usps.org/national/om/httml/download.htm). This will enable us and our membership chairs to have vital information at our finger tips whenever needed.

Right after the holidays the National USPS meeting will be held in Jacksonville on 18 – 25 January 2015. Among a host of interesting seminars available, there will be a Nominating Committee Seminar and Topic Forum hosted by our own Stf/C Anita F. Walker, JN. If you have ever wondered what mystical or magical things occur within a Nominating Committee, this seminar is for you.

As a squadron member you are entitled to an assortment of outstanding benefits. To review these please go to this web page: http://www.usps.org/national/admin_dept/benefitsdescription.htm#Opportunities. I am sure after your visit you will find one or more benefits to take advantage of.

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT (CON'T) D/Lt/C Allan Furtado, SN

The picture below was taken at the Squadron Development table at the recent District 8 Conference EXPO in Boca Raton.



P/C James Skeoch, P is shown presenting me a shirt from the recent Waterways Clean Up campaign. P/C Elaine Kwan, AP from St Lucie River Squadron, was a witness to the presentation. Thank you James and Elaine.

I would like to wish everyone a Very Special Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy and Prosperous New Year.

FORT LAUDERDALE BOAT SHOW D/Lt Ronnie Babin, S

Thanks to all who participated at the USPS Booth. The squadrons on the North end of D8 were very well represented. National's new simulator was a hit.

We were blessed with phenomenal weather but again we were stuck in the tent outside the Convention Center and the traffic left a lot to be desired compared with the amount of people inside and over at Bahia Mar. Hopefully we will be moved in 2015.



Front row (L to R): Tammy Brown; Stf/C Diana Jackson, SN; D/C Mary Dodd, SN; D/Lt Ron Babin, S: Second row (L to R): 1st/Lt Michael Jackson, SN; Pat McDonald

CHAPMAN AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

Congratulations to Cdr William Eldridge, SN from Palm Beach Sail and Power Squadron for winning National's "Chapman Award for Excellence in Teaching". This is the highest award that National can give educationally.



A winner of this award was first selected by his squadron as Teacher of the year. The squadron then submits their nominee to district. The District DEO then selects the winner of the District Chapman Teacher of the Year Award which Cdr Eldridge won during the Fall Conference. That nomination went to National where he was one of five selected to receive the National "Chapman Award for Excellence in Teaching".

District 8 and Palm Beach Sail and Power Squadron are all very proud of Cdr Eldridge and appreciate all he's done in the field of USPS Education.

D8 UPCOMING EVENTS

D8 Spring Conference
24-26 April 2015
Location
Marriott at Boca Center
5150 Town Center Cir
Boca Raton FL 33486

D8 Fall Conference

18-20 September 2015

Location

Marriott at Boca Center

5150 Town Center Cir

Boca Raton FL 33486

VESSEL SAFETY CHECK

News Updates Reminders

Hello D8 from your Vessel Safety Check Chairman, P/R/C Margie Baraff, AP.



It's been quite a year! Congratulations to us all.

USPS® celebrated its 100th Anniversary District 8 celebrated its 75th Anniversary and

Now, we celebrate the 15th Anniversary of the USPS VSC Program

Way back in 1999, with a signed Memorandum of Understanding and a hand shake, P/C/C Art Farr, SN accepted an invitation from the United States Coast Guard to add our manpower and efforts to start a USPS program to certify our members as Vessel Examiners and conduct voluntary Vessel Safety Checks on pleasure boats in unison with the USCG Auxiliary protocol.

In 2000, USPS Certified Vessel Examiners completed a whopping 2,184 inspections and District 8 logged a total of 38 inspections by our first 6 Vessel Examiners in southeast Florida. Now, in 2014, District 8 boasts 42 currently certified VE's and over 590 annual inspections. We've come a long way in our support of a very important national safety program. Thank you to all of our Vessel Examiners and to the D8 squadron VSC Chairmen for their ongoing enthusiasm and encouragement.

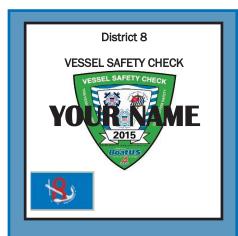
Annually, USPS shows its grateful appreciation to VEs who have completed over 100 VSCs, to the districts who have accomplished the highest number of inspections per VE and a similar award to the top 4 squadrons.

It wasn't until 2007 when D/Lt/C AI Furtado, SN, as our District 8 VSC Chairman then, initiated the D8 VSC awards to showcase our own VEs who have completed over 20 annual inspections and our squadrons who have attained the highest group efforts.

We have all of this and a lot more to celebrate at our Spring Conference.

All of the USPS and D8 Vessel Safety Check awards for 2014 will be presented at the Conference. Please join with us in the excitement and celebration.







Margie

WELCOME ABOARD NEW MEMBERS!

The following new members have joined squadrons in our district since 01 September 2014. Please encourage each one of them to participate in activities - educational, civic service and fraternal that USPS, District 8 and your squadron offer. We look forward to seeing all of you at our district functions.

Ft. Lauderdale	Key West Sail & (con't)	Pompano Beach	
David Blanco	Athanasios Protopsaltis	Alexandria Schwier	Vero Beach
Faiz Fatteh	Shawn Pugsley	James Schwier	Anna Alberti
Brett Gillian	Cynthia Reilley	Maximilian Schwier	Hugh Aaron
Heather Grissom	Thomas Reilley	Pamela Schwier	Laura Aaron
Richard Grissom	Mark Ringle	Izel Venturelli	Dawn Brooks
Ryann Jeffers	Benjamin Scott	Michael Venturelli	Robert Brooks
Michael Kassower	Elizabeth Scott	Sebastian Inlet Sail &	Evan Callaghan
Antonio Lightbourn	Katherine Scott	Charmaine Brayton	Francis Callaghan
Devon Lightbourn	Mark Scott	Edna Markham	Gillian Callaghan
Elijah Lightbourn	Jake Steely	Deborah Sladen	Jane Callaghan
Tatjanna Lightbourn	Jon Steely	Richard Sladen	Rory Callaghan
Debra Maxey			Caroline Castle
Alvaro Ordonez	Palm Beach Sail &	St. Lucie River	Paul Castle
Edward Wortsmann	Brian Berti	Linda Cardavelli	Ann Catchick
	Steve Mendell	Richard Cardavelli	James Catchick
Key West Sail &	William Riker	Kristopher Garrigus	Michelle Fisher
Ronald Avery	Manny Sarria	Gerald Moran	Jay Knoll
William Bird	Elizabeth Warr	Patrice Moran	Linda Knoll
Lori Buckley	Michael Warr	David Rawlinson	Patrick Lahey
Joyce Esquinaldo	Kevin Wellman	Carl Schoen	Christine Luca
Victoria Madeya		Connie Schoen	John Luca
Rebecca Morse		Rosemary Watson	Joseph Mumaw

BE A BOOSTER

DISTRICT 8 NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT. PLEASE SEND YOUR BOOSTER MEMBERSHIP OF \$30.00 TO R/C BILL GILLETTE, AP. YOUR MEMBERSHIP HELPS SUPPORT D8 PUBLICATIONS AND YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE BOOSTER CLUB IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.

D/Lt John Northrup, AP Booster Chairman Dale Reimer

D8 75th Anniversary Flag Ceremony at Squadron Location

Biscayne Bay Power Squadron was the first squadron to participate in the onsite flag celebration at a special Meeting held on 11 October 2014. See pictures below.





Pompano Beach Sail and Power Squadron participated in District 8's 75th Anniversary onsite flag celebration on 13 November 2014 during their General Membership Meeting, Thanksgiving Dinner and ABC Student Graduation.





EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT D/Lt/C Jonathan Bensman, AP

Happy fall to all members of District 8! Welcome back to South Florida to all our snow bird members. Well Fall Conference and the Ft Lauderdale Boat Show have past. Now we are planning for the winter holidays. This is the busy time of the year for boat owners and for our squadrons in District 8 as we get our boats ready for the winter months and attending squadron functions and classes!

I hope to see many of you in the upcoming months. Everyone on the district bridge is getting ready for the National Meeting in Jacksonville, Florida this January. It promises to be an outstanding and fun time! I hope District 8 can have a large turnout this year representing your squadron and of course District 8.

Spring Conference is fast approaching us and squadron commanders, we need your support to get as many members to attend District 8 events, seminars, and the Change of Watch dinner. This COW year's conference promises to be a great event with more classes and seminars.

<u>Cooperative Charting:</u> D/Lt. Bill Heimbaugh, S is the District 8 Coop-Charting Chairman. Squadron Commanders, we still have a lot people involved in coop-charting, but qualified members are getting smaller, we need to get new people involved and certified. Help out D/Lt Bill Heimbaugh, S to keep the District's numbers high as in the past years.

In addition to this being the 100th anniversary of USPS, it is also the 50th anniversary of the Cooperative Charting program. The agreement of cooperation between NOAA's Office of the Coast Survey and USPS makes our cooperative charting program possible. It was first signed in 1963 and has been continuously renewed, most recently by Rear Admiral Glang and Chief Commander Alter at the annual meeting in 2013.

To commemorate this anniversary year, National awarded a special 50th year patch to the top 75 participants in the program and adding a "50 Years of Cooperative Charting" citation to their award certificates. This is for the charting year 4/01/2013 to 3/31/2014. The awards were mailed to the districts for presentation at the Fall 2014 District Conferences.

USPS 18th Annual Boarman National Youth Poster Contest

USPS will kick off the 18th Annual Boarman National Youth Poster Contest at the National Meeting this 18-25 January 2015. The 18th 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. Each squadron in D8 will need to submit their first, second and third place winners in each age category to district. These posters will be voted on by the District Bridge at the Spring Conference the weekend of 24-26 April 2015. The first place winners at District will go on to National for final judgment with winners being given a monetary award. The contest theme for this year will be announced at the National meeting. Contest rules, registration forms and additional contest information about the event, please visit http://www.usps.org/national/membership/youth/poster.htm.

BOOSTERS

D/Lt Ronnie and D/Lt Kathy Babin 6-14

Reinhard & Ruth Bruderer 11-13

Hal Burke & Wendy Mervis 07-14

Coral Ridge Sail & Power Squadron 08-14

D/C Mary and D/Lt Arthur Dodd 6-14

D/Lt/C Allan and Emily Furtado 3-14

P/D/C Marlene and P/C Michael Herbig 4-14

P/R/C William and Lynne Husted 3-14

John & Evelyn Northrup 11-13

Sebastian Inlet Sail & Power Squadron 4-14

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

Thank You All!

D/Lt John W. Northrup, AP Booster Chairman

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2015

18-25 Jan USPS Annual Meeting

Hyatt Riverfront, Jacksonville, FL

24-26 Apr D8 Spring Conference

Marriott at Boca Center, Boca Raton, FL 18-20 Sept D8 Fall Conference

Marriott at Boca Center, Boca Raton, FL

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

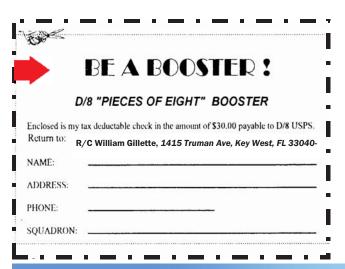
14 Dec Discounted Meal Reservations for Annual Meeting

01 Feb Submissions for Pieces of Eight

10 Apr Room Reservations for Spring Conference

04 Sept Room Reservations for Fall Conference







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