

# UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS

## SAIL AND POWER BOATING

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## Report to the National Boating Federation

27-28 March 2010

### 1. New Officers:

Frank A. Dvorak, SN, Chief Commander (Washington), V/C, John T. Alter, SN, National Executive Officer (North Carolina), V/C Robert J. Sweet, SN, National Educational Officer (Massachusetts), V/C Robert A. Baldrige, SN, National Administrative Officer (Louisiana), V/C David L. Hinders, SN, National Secretary (California), and V/C Richard M. Peoples, SN, National Treasurer (Florida). The Board of Directors consists of these officers and Past Chief Commander, Creighton C. Maynard, Jr., SN. The Board of Directors is our new streamlined form of governance adopted a year ago.

### 2. New Initiatives:

- Working to enhance boating stewardship of the environment through USPS squadrons.
- Developing an On-the-Water Training program under a U.S. Coast Guard grant.
- We now have a new "Cyber Squadron" for those who join via the internet, 193 in six months, 80% from the on-line **ABC 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition** course. When a member joins the Cyber Squadron, squadrons near the person's residence are notified and 41% have already transferred to regular squadrons.

### 3. Educational Program Update:

a. The seminar series continues to expand and draw students. These are nominally 2 hour single subject programs. The list includes:

**Advanced Powerboat Handling**  
**Basic Coastal Navigation**

**Anchoring**

***Boat Handling Under Power  
Hurricanes and Boats***

***How to Use a Chart***

***Knots, Bends and Hitches  
Marine Compass***

***Marine Radar***

***Mastering the Rules of the Road  
Paddle Smart***

***Onboard Weather Forecasting***

***Partner in Command  
Trailing Your Boat***

***Sail Trim and Rig Tuning***

***Using GPS***

***Using VHF &VHF/DSC Marine Radio***

For details of these programs see <http://www.usps.org/national/eddept/seminars>;  
contact your local squadron for a program at your club.

b. The **Boat Operator Certification** program is operational following resolution of insurance issues. **Inland Navigator** certification is available and **Coastal Navigator** certification will be available in 2010. These programs require some key demonstrations; boat handling (on-the-water), handling pyrotechnics, using fire extinguishers, etc., that meet the requirements of UN Resolution No. 40 and the European international certifications. These certifications require USPS selected courses and seminars at each level. **Advance Coastal Navigator** and **Offshore Navigator** will follow. Contact me for more details.

c. Overall educational course activity saw a good increase in 2008-2009 over the previous year. **ABC 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition**, our public boating course, was up 30%. Member courses were up 13% due to the new **Weather** course and new **Navigation** course the previous year.

**4. Vessel Safety Check Program;** USPS continues to participate in this USCGAux program and conducted 33,000 checks in 2009.

**5. Sea Scouts.** A number of USPS squadrons are now sponsoring/supporting local Sea Scout ships.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert P. David, SN

Past Vice Commander

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