

Volume 50-2

50th year "America's Boating Club"©

August 2012

**September 2-9 2012**

USPS Detroit, MI

**October 12th-14th  
2012**D/27 Fall C/C  
Wrightsville Beach,  
NC**January 5th 2013**D/27 Training  
NC State University  
Club**January 16-20 2013**USPS National  
Meeting  
Jacksonville, FL  
Hyatt Regency**March 22nd-24th  
2013**D/27 50th Anniversary  
D/27 Spring C/C  
Change of Watch  
Raleigh, NC

## D/C Message

### Harold W. O'Briant JN

I am beginning to realize that summer has to be one of the best times to be District Commander. For it is summer when the squadrons are at their best on so many levels, I think. As those of us on the District Bridge have traveled across the district this summer, I continue to be amazed and impressed by reports of the unbelievable variety of programs, events and activities being undertaken. It is truly inspiring to see the dedication you all have to civic involvement, continuing education and of course, fellowship.

Activities ranging from co-operative charting, vessel safety examinations, boating classes, raft-ups, boating trips, kids' days, poker runs, Sea Scouts, shrimp boils, hot dog and hamburger cookouts, pancake breakfasts indicate just how creative we can be as members of USPS and The District 27.

Of particular interest to me personally were the USPS Leadership development seminars held in Raleigh in June and sponsored by the District. Because of support from the District, this was the first set of seminars to end up in "the black" for USPS and enabled the seminars to be offered at half-price or no cost at all to participants. Twenty-nine students attended LD101 and LD102 and included the National Educational Officer, Bob Brandenstein and his wife, Jane; two Assistant National Educational Officers, representatives from Districts 26 and 5 and many members of District 27. Thanks so much for your commitment and support. I would also like to thank Raleigh Sail & Power Squadron and, in particular, Lt/C Glenn Faurot, P, for his assistance in securing the seminar site in Raleigh.

In September, the National Governing Board will be held in Detroit, MI. D/Lt/C Bob Howd, JN, and his wife Sandie; D/Lt/C Burt Pearson, SN, and his wife, Margaret; and D/Lt/C George Malindzak, SN, and his wife, Marianne will lead the contingent representing The District 27 at this meeting. I look forward to the interesting reports from the meeting.

In October we will have our Fall Council/Conference, scheduled for The Blockade Runner Hotel in Wrightsville Beach, NC, October 12-14. D/27 meetings chairperson, P/R/C Sarah McCurry, S, has once again worked her "magic" to secure favorable room rates for us. *Continued on page 2*



In addition to our normal business sessions, we are scheduling the popular dinner cruise and dance event on the ICW aboard a Carl Winner boat. A breakout session on the use of sextants is planned along with sessions on the HQ800 reporting system, co-operative charting and DB2000.

The District recognizes the importance of providing meetings and activities as economically as possible to attendees. As hard as we try, we still need your help. This year we are sponsoring a two-day 50/50 drawing as well as a silent auction. Please be as generous as possible in your purchase of the 50/50 tickets and contributions of items to the silent auction. Thank you in advance for your continued generous support.

Following the District Council/Conference, our attention will be turned towards nominating members to serve as squadron bridge officers. The importance of this nomination process cannot be stressed enough. Squadron elections can affect a squadron for up to five years. Incoming Squadron Bridge officers must commit to the one-day District Training Day scheduled for January 5, 2013 in Raleigh, to be truly effective. This is the **ONE** day of the year when each squadron bridge officer is trained on their particular duties for the next year. Responsibilities and programs change from year to year and just because a member has attended once does not mean it is not necessary to continue to attend as your office requirements change. There should be 20 commanders, 20 executive officers, 20 secretaries, 20 treasurers, 20 administrative officers and 20 educational officers in attendance. We need to be the best leaders we can for our members and this one training day is a must.

Once again, thank you for your support of your squadron, The District 27 and USPS. Thank you also for the warm and enthusiastic receptions you extend to me and the other District bridge members, and our wives, as we visit your squadrons.

## USPS Ship's Store Set

P/D/C Ann T. Bailey, AP, has announced she will be having a USPS Ship's Store at the Fall Council/Conference in Wrightsville Beach at The Blockade Runner on October 12 – 13.

A long standing tradition at meetings in the past, the Ship's Store will feature select items from the USPS 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary collection and other items. Ann says you can do your Christmas shopping at one stop. The schedule for the Ship's Store is printed on the agenda and should be located near the registration area in the lobby.

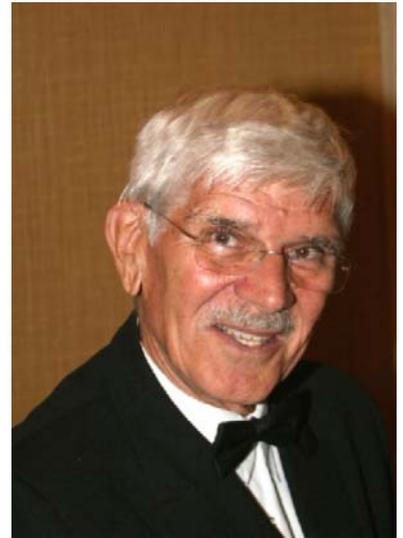
Be reminded, **only checks and cash** can be accepted. **There is no provision for credit card sales.**



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

### Entering Canadian Waters

Many of us who boat in northern coastal regions and the Great Lakes frequently enter Canadian territorial waters during planned cruises and even during day excursions. We have long advised our membership that Canadian law applies once the international border has been crossed regardless of the intent to land in a Canadian port. The practiced procedures, however, have been varied and inconsistent. Most of us are familiar with the need to be compliant with regulations when visiting Canada and reporting procedures on returning to the USA. To further facilitate communication and avoid the propagation of misinformation the following is provided as to the current and correct procedures to follow when entering Canadian waters. The rules are unambiguous although the interpretation provided by presenters at squadron and yacht club meetings aimed at updating memberships have been less than complete in the past and often provided conflicting opinions.



The Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA) website contains a wealth of information to explain the details of the processes: <http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/media/facts-faits/096-eng.html> A short synopsis is available in this PDF document **Regardless the intent to land in Canada and visit a marina we are required to document crossing the international border by calling the Telephone Reporting Centre (TRC). Call 1-888-226-7277.** Please disseminate this information to all and post to websites.

### Correction to Appendix A in ABC3 Student Manual 2012 Reprinting

Appendix A in the ABC3 Student Manual provides discussion on Canadian Rules and Regulations. Topic A-1 on page 219 discusses ENTERING CANADA. The discussion **incorrectly** states non-stop transits by U.S. vessels through Canadian waters need not contact Canadian officials. This change to ABC3 Appendix A removes that discussion and inserts the requirement to report to Canadian officials (as outlined above) when crossing the International border for any reason.

### ABC3 On The Water Guide Now Available.

The ABC3 On-The-Water Teaching Aid Guide is now available for downloading and use from the Downloads section of the ABC3 page. The Guide takes the classroom knowledge to actual on-water experience, covering the material in the ABC3 2012 reprinting, 8 and 12 hour course versions. Concomitant to building confidence in new boaters, these skills will establish a foundation for on-the-water training in advanced courses and seminars, and foster interest in the BOC program.

### Sea Tow ARC Stickers

Sea Tow has created a network of radio stations to allow boaters to do “radio checks” without using VHF Ch. 16. USPS has received a FREE stock of Sea Tow stickers and they are ready for SEOs and DEOs to order using either the SOF or the Free Brochures Form, using inventory number 09-92-001 “Sea Tow ARC Sticker”. The SOF or Free Brochures Form can be emailed as a PDF to Cindy Hodges at [hodgesc@hq.usps.org](mailto:hodgesc@hq.usps.org). In order to be sure the initial orders are spread across all areas of use, there is a limit of 100 per squadron. *Continued on page 4*

Continued from page 3

If you have a major event planned, additional stickers may be released by request to the ANEO. One sticker will be included with each course or seminar manual so, in the future, every student will receive one.

### **Basic Decision Making**

Decisions are made by all boaters on seemingly simple matters. However, as we gain more experience or become educated through USPS courses, we realize the dangers of the sea and better grasp the consequences of our decisions. Unfortunately, this is a lesson too often learned the hard way and too late.

The USPS has initiated the Boating Decision Making (BDM) program, interspersed it into the America's Boating Course 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition (ABC3) 2012 reprinting, focuses on it in Section 12, and provides the information, in whole, for use by all in ABC3 Appendix "E." When we discuss the decision points and emphasize checking the weather before sailing for instance, we are striving for recognition by the skipper of the importance of this decision point. Our daily news articles provide ample example of those making bad decisions. Through check lists, teachings, and common sense, the BDM process can instill a mental review process which may save lives, prevent accidents and set the standard for responsible boat operation for all.

Our members and especially course instructors are encouraged to review BDM, extract and incorporate its concepts, and use it as a teaching aid to help reduce boating accidents and fatalities. The ABC3 2012 Instructor CD includes PPT presentations for Appendix E.

### **America's Boating Course 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition (ABC3)**

The 2012 reprinting was prompted by revisions to meet NASBLA Standards for 2012. While meeting the standards and receiving NASBLA approval, we have included in the course content steps to mitigate the rising numbers in boating accidents and fatalities. These steps which complement NASBLA Standards include:

1. BDM - Introduction of Boating Decision Making, Appendix E. Here the student is introduced to a thought process which will deal with the dangers of going to sea and the consequences of faulty decisions. This theme from this Appendix is interspersed in the course and brought forward in Section 12. Additionally, BDM is the subject of a forthcoming, stand-alone seminar.
2. Charting and Piloting - Chapter 5 in the 2012 reprinting includes use of the Rose Point digital charting DVD as an introduction to charting and piloting. The NASBLA requirements are met in Chapters 1-4, typically in an 8-hour classroom program. Adding Chapter 5 extends the course to about 12 or more hours, either taught by the Squadron, or by student self-study aided by a provided courseware CD. An optional final examination is offered for Chapter 5.
3. OWT – On-The-Water-Training is available which is practical application of safe boating practices and skills introduced in the classroom.

### **Boat US Course line-Assisting Squadrons**

The 800 system has always sent emails to the Boat US Course line administrator when boating courses were added, changed or cancelled. Recently, Boat US stopped doing anything with those emails to eliminate the manual entry function. Working with Boat US, we now have an automated interface which began working on Monday July 23rd. This interface sends information to Boat US whenever any USPS Boating Course is either added, changed, cancelled, and when the course registration is "Closed" by the 800 system.

Since there is no convenient way to tell exactly what boating courses are listed by Boat US, you will have to take some action to get existing courses listed. First go to <http://www.boatus.com/Courseline/courseline.asp> and determine whether your course is listed. *Continued on page 5.*

*Continued fro page 4.* If it is not, go to the 800 system and make a minor change to your boating course record. This can be as minor as adding a period or comma to the notes field. This action will cause the course information to be sent to Boat US. They pick up changes at about 6AM the next morning.

The new interface handles more than the basic boating courses; it also allows the listing of seminars and advanced grade courses. What is sent to Boat US depends on whether the "Not a Public Offering" field is checked on the 800 record for the seminar or advanced grade course. If that box is checked the information for the offering is not sent to Boat US, nor is it displayed to the public on the USPS "Find a Seminar/Class" display.

Whether to offer a seminar or advanced class to the public is a decision which must be made by the squadrons for each offering. Currently, "Not a Public Offering" is now checked by default on the 800 record form. If you enter both a public and member cost, it is automatically unchecked. You may also manually check or uncheck it. If you decide to do so (offer the course to the public) you must set pricing for both members and non-members. Existing seminar and advanced grade course which did not have both a public and member cost had their "Not a Public Offering" option set to "Y" because it was not clear whether they were offered to the public or not. If you want them sent to Boat US and displayed to the public on the USPS pages you should check your records and uncheck the offering box and update the record. If the offering box is checked that change by itself will cause the seminar/class to be sent.

### **HQ 800 System**

The evolution of electronic reporting in virtually all aspects of our activities has led to instant communication of data and flexibility to manage the data to meet the needs of customer and managers. Most of us have welcomed this advancement. HQ800 for instance, facilitates entering our scheduled courses in HQ800 for access by members and internet inquires, and it links to partners such as Boat US for promulgation to their membership. We can schedule courses and seminars, enable pre-registration of students, report successful completions and print diplomas and wallet cards with a stroke of a key. Most recently, change has included DB2000 entry for members completing ABC3, easing processing of BOC applications. Many will wish to use the feature of entering past course completions to document ABC3 completions in past years for their members who joined after the public boating course completion requirement was waived.

Recognizing the difficulties some experience developing computer skills to use HQ800, a series of self-help PowerPoint programs have been promulgated. Championed by the sustained efforts by Staff/C George Malindzak, SN, a self-help program is available from the "downloadable material" tab in the ABC3 web site. This PPT program is encouraged for inclusion in as an educational seminar in district conferences. Some squadrons have found it useful to incorporate a "computer literate" member as an Educational Department officer when submitting their ED1 - Squadron Board Nominations. So doing gives that person access to HQ800 data and allows completion of reports. The Boating Course Assistant (BCA7) software continues as a viable program that interfaces with HQ800, however, it is unlikely that BCA will continue to be supported beyond the end of this year. Hence, you are encouraged to get cozy with HQ80 and utilize the self-help programs as soon as possible. I will be available to help with anybody who needs it.



## District Executive Officer D/Lt/C Robert Howd, JN

It is amazing how this year is flying by. We are half way through already. I do want to express my thanks to our many D27 friends who expressed their well wishes as Sandie went through a shoulder operation in May. I am pleased to report that my nursing days are over, my chauffeuring days are over, my hair curling days are over and my helping her dress days are over. It is just amazing how many things we do routinely that we cannot do when we are recovering from something. Even with her arm in a sling we managed to celebrate her high school reunion, her grandson's wedding and the birth of a new granddaughter.

On to D27 business. So far this year I have visited the Albemarle, New River, Cape Fear, Lake Norman and Pamlico squadrons and have been treated royally at each visit. Thank you all for your hospitality. We also enjoyed seeing everyone at the great rendezvous near Myrtle Beach put together by Cape Fear.

The co-op charting program is moving along smartly. We are not even half way through the year and six squadrons (Charlotte, Fort Macon, Greensboro, Lake Norman, New River, and Rocky Mount) are on the honor roll. Five more (Cape Fear, Fayetteville, Goldsboro, Shallotte River, Winston Salem) are participating. We need 15 squadrons to participate for the district to be on the honor roll. While no district is yet on the honor roll, we are currently ranked #3. We have 17 individuals representing eight squadrons on the individual honor roll. Nationally there are 71 individuals on the honor roll so D27 has about 1/4<sup>th</sup> of the total. If you need some help, our point of contact is Phil Benson [bensonphil028@gmail.com](mailto:bensonphil028@gmail.com).

The current inputting procedures are going to be changed after the Governing Board. There will be a breakout session at the Governing Board in Detroit on using the new CCWEB format. If you are a co-op charting person you should be there. It will be on Friday September 7 from 9-12. So--if you are not going to the GB you might want to get your co-op charting done so that you can still use the familiar procedures. This will also be covered at the upcoming D27 conference in Wrightsville Beach in October.

An event that goes hand in hand with co-op charting is the Aids to Navigation Cruise that Fort Macon Sail & Power Squadron hosts every year. This year it is scheduled for October 20. See the flyer for details. This is a great program. It will give you a much better insight to the many aids to navigation in use in the Beaufort/Morehead City area.

Vessel Safety Checks are coming along well too. We have six squadrons that are on the honor roll so far (Cape Fear, Cape Lookout, Fort Macon, Lake Norman, New River, and Shallotte River). We have about 1450 exams completed in the district. We will probably make the 1800 for honor roll but we are far short of the 180 examiners we need to make that part of the honor roll. We only have 120. If you need some help with Vessel Safety Checks contact Bill Halkovitch [halko@atmc.net](mailto:halko@atmc.net).

Upcoming for the VSC chairs. The annual inventory of the red PFDs is due November 15. The VSC 5 form is what you use to do the inventory. There is information on the VSC section of the USPS website.

PRO/Homeland Security/Govt & Partner Relations Rep P/C JB Bagby has been busy forwarding info to Squadron Executive Officers. D27 CG and CG Aux relations reports have been submitted that included D27 attendance at the CG Fifth District Change of Command. He submitted the Automated Radio Check article to the summer *Ensign*, (see page 9) and to all D27 squadron Executive Officers for their use. I've noticed that this has been republished by at least one squadron (Raleigh).

Our Legislative Affairs person P/C Tom Taylor has reported to us two bills being considered by the NC legislature. One to eliminate the maximum sales tax on boats and one to study what the appropriate fishing licensing fees should be.

The Fall Council/Conference is October 12-14 at Wrightsville Beach. We've got V/C Luis Ojeda SN, the national administrative officer, as our national representative. He is a real dynamo so he should be very interesting to hear. There are several good breakout sessions and a great dinner cruise available. Hope to see many of you there.



# FORT MACON SAIL & POWER SQUADRON

([WWW.FMSPS.ORG](http://WWW.FMSPS.ORG))

**CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO ATTEND OUR 9<sup>TH</sup>  
SATURDAY 20 OCTOBER IN MOREHEAD CITY N.C.**

## **THE EVENT INCLUDES:**

\* **COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF AIDS TO NAVIGATION**

**BUFFET MEAL AT CAPTAIN BILL'S SEAFOOD RESTAURANT ON THE WATER IN MOREHEAD CITY**

\***OBSERVING AIDS ON A 2 HOUR NARRATED**

**CRUISE ABOARD THE CAROLINA PRINCESS IN DAYLIGHT AND IN DARKNESS TO SEE THE NAVIGATIONAL AIDS' LIGHTS OPERATING**

**PRICE: \$55 PER PERSON, \$25 UNDER AGE 15**

**INCLUDES CLASS, MEAL AND CRUISE**

**NOT RECOMMENDED FOR CHILDREN UNDER AGE 7**

**FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS EMAIL  
[RMCKEON@EC.RR.COM](mailto:RMCKEON@EC.RR.COM) or CALL 252-822-0022**

**SEATING IS LIMITED RESERVE YOUR SEATS NOW**

*Pre-registration and payment are required by October 4th..  
Payment should be mailed to Richard McKeon,  
126 Spinnaker Lane, Havelock NC 28532*

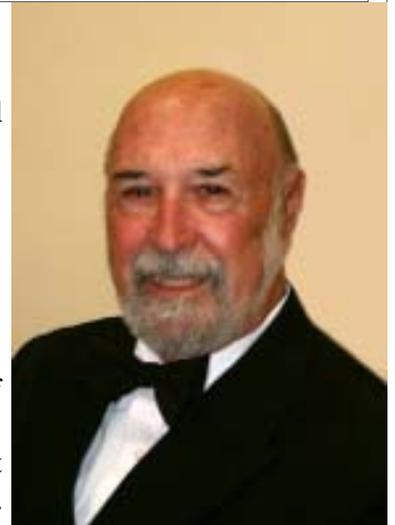
**UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS MEMBERSHIP IS NOT REQUIRED  
INVITE YOUR FRIENDS**

**Pre-registration @ [www.fmsps.org/cruise](http://www.fmsps.org/cruise)**

## District Administrative Officer D/LT/C Burt H. Pearson, III, SN

The calendar says that we are coming to the end of summer, and certainly all the ads for “school supplies” reinforce that thought. The weather does seem to be moderating a bit, and the really enjoyable boating weather is approaching. An old saying goes: “An idle boat deteriorates faster than a well-used boat.” So get out on the water and boat safely, have fun and introduce others to boating.

If your Squadron has not already completed the Children’s poster contest activity, it is time to put this activity into high gear. The winning posters from each Squadron have to be delivered to the District 27 Assistant Administrative Officer at the Fall Council/Conference Meeting, October 12-14. This is a change from previous years. The District has to notify the National Membership Committee of the number of posters that we will presented at the USPS National Meeting **no later than January 1**. Therefore, the Fall Council/Conference Meeting is the last chance for D27 to judge the posters. Please do not let this earlier date slip by you.



The Administrative Department has attempted to keep the Squadrons up to date relative to checking the list of Cyber members in their area. These are members of USPS looking for a home. Ideas to assist in member retention have also been distributed.

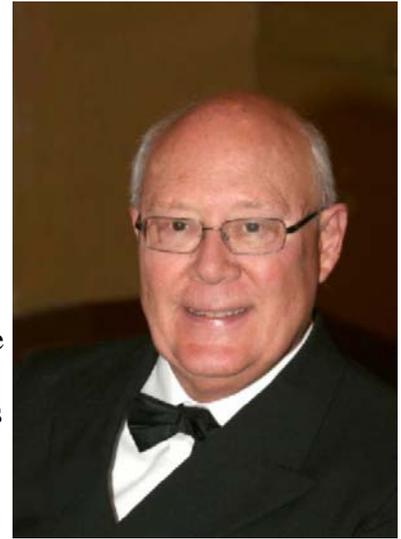
The National Membership Committee is working to put together some type of presentation for the Governing Board in Detroit, presumably a slide show of some type that has a picture from every Squadron in every District. District 27 has sent in pictures from every Squadron. I thank all the Squadron Administrative Officers for their assistance in the project. This undertaking was an education for several reasons: Some Squadrons had to search for a picture; some had to search for “the member” that had the picture; and trying to get a picture with sufficient resolution for this use was also difficult for some reason. Here are some suggested ideas that might help advertise your Squadron: always have a large banner with your Squadron name and burgee prominently displayed whenever a group picture is taken; take pictures in the highest resolution possible, the more pixels the better. The picture can be resized to a smaller resolution before adding to your website, but it cannot be upsized; appoint a “photographer” to take as many pictures as possible. The pictures on your website showing a lot of activity and involvement can attract member to your Squadron, and it is fun to reminisce about fun events as you look at your Squadron pictures. Set up a slide show and have it running during social times at your meetings. Guests and new members can see the fun that everyone has, and gives you an opportunity to expand when someone asks about a particular picture, or the moment of recall as a member looks up and sees themselves.

Make sure that you have plans for a trip to the beach, Wrightsville Beach, for the weekend of October 12-14 for the Fall Council/Conference. The beach will be great, the fellowship will be great, and you will not want to miss out on anything that happens during this meeting.

## District Secretary

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

Let's think back a bit to the last D27 meeting or two which many of us attended. Several weeks before the meeting, we received an e-mail from the D27 Secretary with lots of attachments. In some cases, there were even two e-mails! These attachments included such things as the registration form and the agenda and the much-loved Squadron Commander's Report. Then a few days go by; maybe even a week or two. Now it is time to actually do something with some of those attachments. So now we start back through that ever-growing stack of e-mails we have been meaning to clean out but never seemed to have the time to get it done. Hopefully, we find that elusive e-mail. And then again, maybe we don't. So we send an e-mail to the D27 Secretary and hope he/she takes mercy on us in our hour of need and resends the whole thing.



Your D27 Bridge wants to help relieve some of that pain and make life a bit easier for all of us. I have been referring to this as "one-stop-shopping", although nothing is actually being purchased. The plan is to post all of those attachments as simply documents on the Calendar page of the D27 website. Everyone will still see that e-mail from the D27 Secretary, but what it will now say is that the documents needed are all posted on the website from where they can be retrieved when needed. That same e-mail will contain an explanation of exactly how to get to the website and the documents. We may even see an e-mail from the D27 Commander or the Meetings Committee earlier than the e-mail from the D27 Secretary; such an e-mail would be to let everyone know that some of the documents are already posted. This could include information needed sooner such as the hotel particulars. We will also make every effort to ensure that Microsoft Word documents are file type "doc" rather than "docx" so that D27 members with earlier versions of Word are still able to read them. Your D27 Secretary will appreciate knowing after the Fall Council/Conference if you believe this is an improvement or not.

Along with D27 Treasurer Dave Parsons and D27 Educational Officer George Malindzak, I took advantage of the fact that the new USPS LD101 (DAO/SAO) and LD102 (DXO and SXO) were being offered right here in our own backyard. The other members of the D27 Bridge were there also even though they had taken the courses in Jacksonville. Whether someone is currently in some leadership position (district or squadron) or has even the faintest idea in the back of the head that they might want to at some point, these are really excellent educational experiences. Even if you don't ever become an officer in some aspect of USPS, they are excellent in terms of teaching how to deal with people and situations. Much of what is taught is very applicable in everyday life and in the workplace. I highly recommend both courses. But whether they will be offered right here in D27 again is a very big question. They will certainly be offered at all national meetings. Note that each of them is pretty much an all-day affair.

The time has come for the Fall 2012 edition of the semi-annual D27 love-in/confab/get-together known as the Council and Conference. If someone is not clear on what the difference is, I am sure each and every D27 Bridge member will be happy to enlighten them. In a very general sense, the Conference makes all of the important decisions of the District. The Bridge carries out the decisions of the Conference and is not empowered to do much more than that. If a request is submitted to the D27 Bridge to fund something and it is not in the budget, the Bridge must defer that request to the Conference (power of the purse strings). The Council functions pretty much as an advisory group to the Conference in most situations (this statement is the opinion of the current D27 Secretary). So if someone is not happy with what is decided at the D27 level, they need to get involved and be at the meetings and let their voice be heard. *Continued page10*

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There is another side to the Council/Conference. It is the social aspect of getting together with your D27 friends (some of whom you have not met yet) from across NC for good food and libations and water-related adventures. There will also be time enough to swap navigational horror stories (NEVER tales or lies!). Now think about the venue. The Blockade Runner is a NC treasure which has recently undergone major renovation. It is really a great place and the room rate they are giving us is a bargain. And then we factor in the fact that we are at the beach and it is October. This is just about the best month for being at the beach. The kids are back in school and the roads and restaurants are not so crowded. The weather could hardly be better! The water is still quite warm. I checked with my spies at NOAA (actually it is on their website) and learned that the average daily high temperature in October is 74 and the average low is 53. Furthermore, the number of days in October with measureable rain is THREE. So right here we have a clue as to why the NC State Fair is in October. I hope to see your smiling faces at Wrightsville Beach!



Dave & Carolyn @ 11,300 feet above sea level  
looking for aids to navigation

“Show up at Fort Macon’s aids course”

## District Treasurer

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

Our District has done well so far this year in welcoming in new members. For the first two quarters of 2012, our District has 83 new members. Leading the way is Cape Fear with 16; Southport 14; Shallotte River and Pamlico 8; Raleigh 7; Catawba and Lake Norman 6, Albemarle 4; Ft. Macon and Charlotte 3; Cape Lookout and Greensboro 2; Durham and Goldsboro 1. Lets get them busy in our squadrons and show them all the benefits of being a member of USPS and our local squadrons.

Where we have somewhat dropped the ball is getting renewals from those who join our squadrons under the Trial Membership Program. It has been said that this program has an overall 50% renewal but I don't see that happening in our District. Squadrons and the District are missing out on the ability to bring in new ideas and future leadership candidates and revenue. We need to step up our efforts in this area.



I recently participated in the AO/DAO and XO/DXO training opportunity that District 27 sponsored in Cary. This is a great program that we should encourage our members to take advantage of. It not only provides useful information that will strengthen the leaders of the future but can be of great use in your everyday work outside of USPS. Courses will be available in Jacksonville, Fla at the National Meeting where we will also be celebrating the 100th anniversary of USPS. At our recent District Bridge meeting, our Commander stated that District 27 has had the most participants in these training sessions of any other District in USPS. No wonder we are such a great District!

There is still time to get the Jan-Jun Sales Tax report turned in, if you want to be included in the District Report. So far six squadrons have submitted their report and I plan on completing the District report and filing it with the State by September 15<sup>th</sup>. Remember to send all receipts with your report, copies are acceptable.

Our spending so far this year has remained within the budget, except for some expenses that exceeded revenue for the Change of Watch in New Bern and District Rendezvous at Little River. I anticipate that we can remain in the black for the remainder of our current year. It is extremely important to participate in all of the events of the District and support what the Bridge and various committees and Host Squadrons have planned. When the activities are not supported then it has an adverse affect on keeping our expenditures within the budget that has been adopted for the year. Our next planned meeting is the Fall Conference at Wrightsville Beach. Goldsboro Squadron is hosting this event and has made some great plans, so put the dates of October 12-14 on your calendar now and send in your reservations for a great time at the beach.

See you at the D27 Fall Conference



ANNOUNCING THE

**District 27 Fall Council/Conference**

**October 12-14 2012**

**The Blockade Runner Hotel**

**Wrightsville Beach, NC**

**Room Rate: \$89 plus tax per night**

**Ask for "US Power Squadron" Group rate**

**800-541-1161**

**Cut-off date for this rate is September 26, 2012**

**Hosted by Goldsboro Sail & Power Squadron**

**Cdr Lorenda B. Overman, JN**



**D27 Fall Council/Conference Agenda**  
**October 12-14, 2012**  
**The Blockade Runner-Wrightsville Beach, NC**

Friday, 12 October

Uniform Casual—USPS/District/Squadron shirt

<b>TIME</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>EVENT LEADER</b>
1400-1800	Member Registration	Lobby	Goldsboro
	Youth Poster submissions	Lobby	D/Lt Paula Schubert, AP
	Voter Registration	Lobby	D/ILt Paula Stewart, P
1400-	50/50 Raffle/Silent Auction	Lobby	Goldsboro
1400-1500	District Bridge Meeting	Nighthawk I & II	D/C Harold O'Briant, Jr., JN
1545-1630	New Members, 1 <sup>st</sup> timers & Squadron Commanders Reception	Nighthawk I & II	D/C Harold O'Briant, Jr., JN
1630-1730	PDC & Host squadron reception	Nighthawk I & II	D/C Harold O'Briant, Jr., JN
1800	River Cruise/dinner	Boat dock	Goldsboro

Saturday, 13 October

Uniform Casual—USPS/District/Squadron shirt

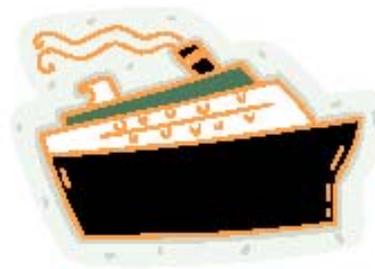
<b>TIME</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>EVENT LEADER</b>
0700-0900	Member Registration	Lobby	Goldsboro
	Youth Poster Submissions	Lobby	D/Lt Paula Schubert, AP
	Voter Registration	Lobby	D/ILt Paula Stewart, P
0700-	50/50 Raffle/Silent Auction	Lobby	Goldsboro
0730-1500	USPS Ship's Store	Lobby	P/R/C Ann T. Bailey, AP
0800-0900	Sextant Instruction	Florida	D/Lt/C George Malindzak, SN
0900-1030	Spouses Coffee	Nighthawk I	Goldsboro
0900-0930	<b>Fall Council /Conference convenes</b>	Lee Ballroom	D/C Harold O'Briant, Jr., JN
	Invocation		D/Lt Alec Wrenn, N
	Pledge of Allegiance		Cdr Lorenda Overman, JN
	Intro. USPS Nat'l Rep & D27 Guests		P/R/C Ann T. Bailey, AP
0930-1030	Nat'l Rep. Town Hall Meeting	Lee Ballroom	V/C Luis Ojeda, SN
1045-1145	<b>Breakout Session 1</b>		
	Education (Sextant usage)	Patio	D/Lt/C George Malindzak, SN
	DB2000	Florida	Lt/C Frank Schubert, AP
	Co-op Charting	Nighthawk II	D/Lt Phil Benson, JN
	Sqd Cdr & XO	Lee Ballroom	D/C Harold O'Briant, Jr., JN
	Nominating Comm (closed)	Beauregard	D/Lt/C Robert Howd, JN
1215-1315	<b>Members Awards Luncheon</b>	Nighthawk I & II	P/D/C Mike McCulley, JN
1330-1430	<b>Breakout Session 2</b>		D/C Harold O'Briant, Jr., JN
	DB2000	Florida	Lt/C Frank Schubert, AP
	Squadron Admin Officers	Lee Ballroom	D/Lt/C Burt Pearson, SN
	Co-op Charting	Nighthawk II	D/Lt Phil Benson, JN
	Education (HQ 800)	Nighthawk I	D/Lt/C George Malindzak, SN
	Planning Committee (closed)	Beauregard	P/D/C Jamie McCurry, AP
1500-1600	<b>Fall Council /Conference reconvenes</b>	Lee Ballroom	
	Reports of General Committees		Committee Chairpersons
	Reports of Standing Committees		Committee Chairpersons
	Meeting Adjourns		
1615-1645	N Club Meeting	Beauregard	P/D/C Jerry Hall, SN
1730	Members Reception (cash bar)	Nighthawk I & II	
1830	Dinner (uniform: blazer & open shirt)	Lee Ballroom	P/R/C Sarah McCurry, S



*District 27*  
*Representing North Carolina's Local Squadrons.*



# Fall Conference Dinner Cruise and Dance



*Friday, 12 October, 1830 - 2030*

*Menu:*

- BAKED BARBEQUED CHICKEN*
- AUTHENTIC NORTH CAROLINA BARBEQUE*
- Parsley New Potatoes*
- Honey Baked Beans*
- Green Beans*
- Toasted Garlic Bread*
- ICED TEA*
- Dessert*
- Cash Bar*

*\$47 per person*

*Meet at the Dock of the Blockade Runner  
at 1815*

## DISTRICT 27 BITTS

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## FIRST CLASS



[WWW.USPS.ORG/LOCALUSPS/D27](http://WWW.USPS.ORG/LOCALUSPS/D27)

**October 12-14 2012**

**D/27 Fall C/C Wrightsville Beach, NC**

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