

Executive Officer's Report

A steady progression of learning how our organization functions, its infrastructure, proud history, and more especially developing more than ever before, a deeper appreciation for its dedication to safe boating through education has been my personal experience as I progressed through the district bridge positions. As executive officer I enjoyed a close working relationship with our current commander who has been responsive and fully understands the importance of effective communication to get the job done. He became my mentor and provided hands-on experience of much of what is expected of a district commander.

Our organization has made significant progress in improving our technological infrastructure. A longstanding need to develop a better national website is underway with the implementation of iMIS. This process presents a significant challenge and is not progressing as initially expected for reasons beyond the scope of this report. What is important is it is progressing. Marine SEO is helping us making our presence known with social media, making us aware of the many no cost benefits available from Google, and assisting us in obtaining these benefits.

Another challenge we faced was losing our insurance. Typically, at the squadron level the subject was rarely if ever brought up with the notable exception of on-the-water training. District Five wasted no time in rising to the occasion to find a carrier while at the same time keeping the national organization informed. National was able to find a new carrier and at present our entire organization has a learning curve ahead on how to navigate through our new policy of understanding what is or is not covered.

In summary, all that has taken place during my year as executive officer has been highly educational. I developed a strong appreciation for the capable members we have that are proactively involved with the District Five bridge I was exposed to. It has laid the foundation where my focus needs to be as commander.