



# MARK 5

**District 5**  
**a unit of the United States Power Squadrons®**

**Volume 57 No. 2**

**Sail and Power Boating®**

**Winter 2007**

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Wow! We did it! D/5 take a bow! Once again we showed our talent when we hosted the 2007 USPS Governing Board meeting in Norfolk, 5-9 September. More than 1,000 USPS members attended the meeting, with most events sold out. Six hundred people attended the Governing Board meeting. About 200 D/5 members attended at least one session.

D/5 members in their navy mermaid shirts and yellow ribbons were everywhere – greeting people at the door, selling raffle tickets, handling the registration desk, herding people onto the various shuttle and tour buses, and managing the tours and the Nauticus event. If a D/5 helper wasn't immediately available there was signage, signage, signage – everywhere. D/5 coordinators made use of two-way radios throughout the facility to keep things flowing smoothly and to handle emergencies. D/5 co-chairs, P/D/C Tom Dougherty, SN, and P/D/C Bill Selden, V, AP, reported that 111 D/5 members, representing 23 squadrons, were recommended for merit marks and contributed to the success of this event – before, during and after.

Over the three days there were 10 department meetings, 19 table exhibits, 32 different VIP seminars, an EXPO, and USPS University offering 3 courses each day. There were different tours offered each day to various historical locations in the Norfolk area - all in addition to the Governing Board meeting. On Thursday evening USPS had exclusive use of the Nauticus/Battleship Wisconsin facilities.

We settled down to business with the Governing Board meeting on Saturday, which opened with a very moving presentation from District 22 about the evolution of the flags flown by our country over the years. Some of the actions taken at the meeting included the adoption of the 2008 USPS budget of \$2,046,485 and the adoption of new USPS by-laws. The process of adopting the new by-laws, which will revise the governance of USPS, was a real lesson in parliamentary procedure and a trial by fire for D/5's Flag Lieutenant Gary Kirts, AP, who was the appointed parliamentarian for the meeting.

D/5 won 3<sup>rd</sup> place for the district MIRA award and Patapsco River won 3<sup>rd</sup> place for the squadron MIRA awards. Thirteen D/5 squadrons won recognition for having achieved at least a 1% growth in membership for the 2006/07 year.

Photos page 11.

~D/1st/Lt Virginia Brown, P



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We've cruised all summer and it is now time to "Cruise into Education". Hopefully everyone has had a great summer. I know that the D/5 summer cruise and rendezvous were full of fun and activities with much participation.

As we think about putting up our boats for the winter, we should not be thinking about the dull days ahead until spring. There are many activities and things that can be done now. We all should be thinking about how we can enhance our own knowledge of boating - perhaps by taking one or more of the USPS university seminars or perhaps you have the option to work on an advanced grade. There are many members with full certificates who should give consideration to how you can help in the education department. Or, if education is not your idea of fun, then there are many other areas of involvement within your squadron. During the next few months as we wait for the warmer weather to return, consider mentoring a new member or, even better, recruiting a new member.

As your nominating committee works to develop next year's bridge and executive committee, consider stepping forward and taking on a leadership role within your squadron. If you do not think you are ready, then ask your current commander about leadership or operations training. The district bridge is here to assist squadrons in any way possible to make your squadron stay on course and continue with the fun and enjoyment of being a USPS member.

At the Fall Conference I had the honor of distributing many awards to squadrons within D/5. There were several squadrons that had membership growth accomplishment between from 1% to 15% and numerous educational awards for teaching public boating, as well as, squadron members in seamanship, advance grades, and electives. There were more squadrons that got involved with community activities, which led to a number of Power of One pins given out for member recruitment. D/5 is well on course, and I know with the dedication of our membership we will continue on that course to future success.



D/C Arlene Anderson, AP,  
thanks Capt. Jose  
Favinha for attending Fall  
Conference.

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## D/5 SAIL REGATTA



The race is on!



Scandia gets underway.



Members of the District Bridge enjoy the race - landside.

The D/5 Sail Regatta was hosted by Cambridge Sail and Power Squadron on 6 - 8 October at the Cambridge Yacht Club on the Choptank River. Festivities began on Saturday with an "Indoor Picnic", where the August-like weather made the club's air conditioning much appreciated. Everyone enjoyed the hamburgers, hotdogs, and the fixings.

Race Sunday began with fog and mist, but a Continental breakfast got the captains and crews moving. Race Committee Chairman Lt/C Ernie Hanmer, SN, reviewed the rules, regulations and chart with the crews. The committee boat with committee members aboard set out to the anchorage in the Choptank River. D/Lt/C Fuzzy Jones, S, was an observer. The four sailing vessels all had a clean start and the wind picked up a bit.

The finish positions were:

**1st Place** -Scandia skippered by P/C Rolf Steunes, SN, of Dundalk

**2nd Place** - Mystery skippered by Lt. Jim Harvey, AP, of Cambridge

**3rd Place** - Moonshadow skippered by P/C Paul Geppert, P, of Susquehannock

**The Broken Mast Award** went to Sea Lion with P/C Mike King AP, of Wilmington. The Broken Mast is awarded in recognition of the determination of the skipper and crew; they never gave up or quit.

**The Thau-Reese Trophy** was given to P/C Steunes. This trophy was first awarded in 1960.

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## Cruisin' at the Fall Conference

Fortunately the Cruise Ship Arlene and various crews sailed into Ocean City, Maryland, for the D/5 Fall Conference on Wednesday and Thursday before the ocean and winds kicked into a fury of big pounding waves and honking winds. We all safely settled in for another informative, busy, interactive three days with our D/5 friends and squadron comrades.

Friday and Saturday seminars, presentations and meetings provided something for everyone - but particularly for those involved in USPS Education. D/Lt/C Robert Palmer, SN, and his staff provided a schedule packed with events from 0730 until 1730 and featured a USPS University Open House with our Chief Commander's representative Assistant National Educational Officer, R/C Robert Sweet, SN. There was only a short Council Meeting and seminars galore from understanding postal rates to "Locking Through". The joint DC/DXO/DAO meeting was well attended by squadron bridges with interesting "breakout sessions" to explore the changing needs of squadrons in D/5.

Friday evening the Cruise Ship Arlene docked in the atrium with a fabulous 15-piece orchestra for dancing and twenty different, delicious hor d'oeuvres made from the recipes contained in the D/5 "Chesapeake Flavors" book of appetizers. See the Ship's Store if you would like to purchase a copy. (See page 12.)

Saturday evening we attended the traditional D/5 Commander's cocktail party and enjoyed a banquet of prime rib or Maryland crab cakes in the hotel. The program included remarks from the representative of the Portuguese government

Captain Jose Favinha prior to awarding the Prince Henry Trophy and the Caravelle Award, and featured many other awards. Capt. Favinha is currently Head of Coordination for Scientific Programme of the Work Branch in the NATO Supreme Allied Command of Transformation in Norfolk

Sunday morning we arose after a much-needed extra hour of sleep and attended our conference meeting. Bridge reports featured more awards. Conference business included passing resolutions naming our members to the Governing Board, and approving the D/5 budget and the burgee design for the provisional Colonial Sail and Power Squadron. All business was completed in time for members to race back to their rooms, pack up all the awards and other stuff to beat the 1300 hotel deadline for checking out. If you didn't attend I hope you will check it out next year - you won't be sorry- it will be rewarding.

~D/1st/Lt Virginia Brown, P  
**The C/C's representative, R/C  
Robert Sweet, SN, addresses the  
Winter Council.**



**Capt. Jose Favinha  
addresses D/5 at dinner**



**Joe Gibson and Charlie Tulip get into  
the "bubbly"**



# Scene at Fall Conference



Kathleen and P/C Bernard Karpers, JN, greet D/C Anderson.



District Aides: Bobby Blaker, Judy Holmes, Mary Palmer, Joyce Bradshaw, Micky McNelis, Ken Perigo, Susan Reisinger, Sharon Reichart, Charlie Tulip, Evelyn Kirts and Conrad Reisinger.



Commander's Cocktail Party



D/1st/Lt's Ginny and Chris Brown



Winter Conference convenes on Sunday morning.

## Educational Awards 2007

### The Prince Henry Award

- 1<sup>st</sup> Hampton Roads
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Trenton Falls
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Pennsway

### Caravelle Award

- 1<sup>st</sup> Northern Neck
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Hampton Roads
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Delhigh

### D/5 Seamanship – Kenneth Smith

Smith Mountain Lake

### USPS Educational Proficiency Awards

#### Annapolis

Thomas M Himmelmann, AP

#### Blue Hen

Robert Charles Mathers, AP

#### Delhigh

Greg Mayer, AP

#### Dundalk S&P

Kenneth H.M. Finck, AP

#### Dundalk S&P

Timothy B. Campbell, AP

#### Mid-Potomac

Rick Marinelli, AP

#### Miles River SP

Timothy J. Hanlon, AP

#### Northeast River

Daniel M. Gorman, AP

Rick S Anderson, AP

#### Northern Neck

John A. Kelly, AP

#### Northern Virginia

G. Jay Nelson, AP

W. Thomas Ballew, AP

Robert E Cox, Jr., AP

Joseph P. Jarocki, AP

#### Richmond

James E. Shelton, AP

#### Rockville

Alan I. Karpas, AP

Joseph P. Gibson, AP

Joseph J. McKinney, AP

Julien P. Hofberg, AP



D/C Anderson and Capt. Favinha present the Prince Henry Award to Hampton Roads.



P/D/Lt/C Harold Willard, SN, accepts the Chapman Award for outstanding teaching in D/5



Mrs. Pat Smith, D/C Anderson and R/C Sweet present the Kenneth Smith memorial award to Smith Mountain Lake for teaching the most students in the Basic Boating Class.



**Northern Neck accepts the Caravelle Trophy from D/C Anderson and Capt. Favinha.**

Rockville (cont.)  
 Charles J. Wells, AP  
 Wilmington  
 Stephen W. DeVeber, AP  
 John G. Ingram, AP

**District Winner of Chapman Award**

Patuxent River  
 Harold L Willard, SN

**Henry E. Sweet Excellence In Education**

1<sup>st</sup> Rockville  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Northern Neck  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Northern Virginia

**District 5 Commander's Trophy For Advanced Grades**

1<sup>st</sup> Northern Virginia  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Delhigh  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Hampton Roads

**District 5 Commander's Trophy For Elective Courses**

1<sup>st</sup> Northeast River  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Rockville  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Patuxent River

**Henry E. Sweet Award For Best Teaching Aid In Show**

1<sup>st</sup> Patuxent River  
 Navigator's Gloves

**Computer Assisted Instruction Teaching Aid Award**

1<sup>st</sup> Pennsway  
 Locking Through

**Traditional Teaching Aid Award**

1<sup>st</sup> Patuxent River  
 Navigator's Gloves



**Patuxent River claims many of the Teaching Aid Awards for 2007.**



**Best in Show - Mariner's Gloves**

**Awards continue on page 8.**

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## Teaching Aid Subject Area Winners:

### Boating:

1st	Patuxent River	Navigators Gloves
2nd	Patuxent River	Fueling Safety
3rd	Patuxent River	How a Boat Turns

### Seamanship:

1 <sup>st</sup>	Patuxent River	Range Daymark
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### Cruise Planning:

1 <sup>st</sup>	Pennsway	Locking Through
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### Instructor Development:

1 <sup>st</sup>	Patuxent River	Lectern
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### Weather:

1st	Dundalk	Heat Transfer
2nd	Dundalk	Why Fronts Bring Storms
3rd	Dundalk	Condensation & Dew Point

### Squadron Nominees for the Chapman Award

Absecon Island	S Ronald Kline, SN
Delsea	Charles D. Henderson, P
Dundalk	Raymond M Schiff, P
Hampton Roads	Lisa A. Cummings, S
Kingsway	Drew Stanwyck, P
Mid-Potomac	Charles E Evans, AP
Nansemond River	Ronald E Murphy, AP
Northeast River	Rick S Anderson, AP
Northern Neck	David B. Cook, JN
Northern Virginia	Robert VanBuskirk, P
Ocean City	Bella J Gulyas, AP
Patuxent River	Harold L Willard, SN
Potomac River	Grant Woodside, AP
Rockville	Alan I. Karpas, AP
Virginia Beach	Dwain Rodman, AP



Northeast River accepts Commander's Award for teaching the most elective courses.



Rockville accepts award for excellence in obtaining Educational Proficiency



Northern Neck wins for teaching the most Advanced Courses





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# CO-OP CHARTING AWARDS



**D/Lt Gail O'Donnell, AP, accepts the CC Holmes Award and the first place plaque for Cooperative Charting from R/C Sweet.**

## Individual

- 1st Gail O'Donnell, AP  
Miles River
- 2nd Tom O'Donnell, AP  
Miles River
- 3rd Elvin Cordell, AP Richmond

## Squadron

- 1st Miles River

## CC Holmes Award

Gail O'Donnell, AP Miles River



**D/Lt Tom O'Donnell, AP, accepts the first place plaque for Squadron Cooperative Charting for Miles River.**

## USPS Civic Service Awards

- 1st Place —Virginia Beach
- 2nd Place —Hampton Roads
- 3rd Place—Patapsco River

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# Cruisin' with Education

## New D/5 VHF/DSC Demo Unit is READY!

One of the most significant safety improvements in recent years has been the development and implementation of the USCG "Rescue 21" system. To take advantage of this on-the-water emergency response system, you need to have a new VHF radio with the "red" button. Pushing that button (twice) will automatically alert the USCG and all vessels equipped with similar new radios of your "distress call". If you have connected your GPS and secured an MMSI, your location and a selectable description of the nature of the distress will also be sent automatically and continuously. When properly configured, these new radios also allow selective calling of vessels without the normal hailing protocol, thus eliminating some of the voice traffic on channel 16. Both of these features are improvements in the safety of vessels.

D/5 member P/C Dave Viers, SN, of Richmond has constructed a VHF/DSC demo unit to allow members and the boating public to experience and train on the Digital Selective Calling (DSC) and Emergency "red" button features of the new radio. This unit has two radios and a GPS/Chartplotter so you can see both ends of a conversation or emergency call. It was available for the first time at Fall Conference when Wayne Rogers of Patuxent River used it in conjunction with the USPS University Seminar "Using VHF/DSC" seminar session. It will now be available for use by any Squadron for boat shows, boating classes, seminar sessions, or even general membership meetings. For information or to schedule this unique unit, contact Bob Palmer at [d5deo@mindspring.com](mailto:d5deo@mindspring.com) or 804-794-2620.



## USPS University Seminars Expansion Continues

Headquarters now has copies of "Boat Handling Under Power" and "Sail Trim and Rig Tuning," adding them to the four topics previously introduced. Additional topics are nearing completion. Each provides excellent ways to engage members and the boating community in updating and refreshing their knowledge and to spark new interest in USPS activities. Cdr Jim Heckman, SN, of Pennsway led a session at Fall Conference to demonstrate ways to use these short sessions to energize a squadron. Contact him if you have any questions on the seminars or how to teach them.

## Boat Operator Certification – an Update

This other new offering from the USPS University is moving toward the implementation stage. D/5 is in the Mid-Atlantic Region and now has a Regional Certifier in place to assist in training plans and approval of documentation of level component qualification. The program now has its own webpage at HQ (<http://www.usps.org/national/eddept/boc/main.htm>) which allows direct access to the current requirements and paperwork. When I attended a session at the Governing Board in Norfolk, I learned that the plans call for certifiers in every squadron. Each SEO will be asked to submit a certifier nomination and there is a requirement to attend a training session. These members will then be ready to assist their squadrons in getting any desired certification levels. This needed training may be offered at the 2008 regional educational workshops and/or at Spring Conference for those approved to be certifiers. Achieving the goal to have qualified certifiers in every squadron by year-end seems very unlikely, but we are now starting to move toward it.

## We Know "Life Jackets" Save Lives!

Still Cruisin' with Education,

~D/Lt/C Robert Palmer, SN  
District Educational Officer



## Inside the 2007 Governing Board - Norfolk, Virginia



The business of the weekend is conducted in Norfolk.



P/D/C William D. Selden, V, AP, stays busy working the show.



Some of these pirates bear a striking resemblance to D/5 members...

Dinner with a few good friends.



**FOR SALE: 2005 Mainship 400 Trawler.** Single diesel and bow thrusters; 2 zone A/C & heat; Kohler generator; washer/dryer; central vac; molded shower and tub; complete galley plus upper deck summer kitchen with Jenn-Air electric grill, ice maker and wet bar. Spacious upper helm station fully enclosed with customized canvas. Cherry and holly flooring in main salon; leatherette pull-out sleep sofa; remote windlass, double anchor locker; Kato Marine Islander davits; 9' AquaPro hypalon dinghy with aluminum bottom and 9.9 hp Nissan engine with electric start. Truly turn key. Asking \$299,900.

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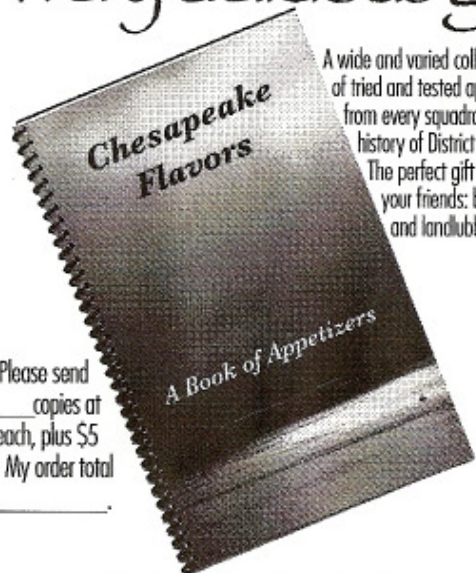


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## SEAMANSHIP ONLINE

In partnership with the University of Western Florida (UWF), our Seamanship Advanced Grade course is now available to those USPS members needing an alternate method of effective boating education. Seamanship Online is a narrated version of the classroom course with student manual and hand-outs. Self-study chapter questions are completed and corrected online for immediate feedback. The course exam is also online to allow course completion without waiting for printing and mailing of a course exam.

Each class is designed to last eight weeks. They began 1 November 2007 and are currently scheduled through the spring. The next one is scheduled to begin on 1 January 2008, and the following one is 1 February 2008.

### What do you need to use this new learning technique?

1. You need a little patience because the course material will be mailed from USPS Headquarters after they receive the enrollment verification.
2. You will need a computer and reliable internet service (preferably DSL or high speed cable or fiber optic), although UWF has modified the PowerPoint materials to make it more easily downloaded and viewed.
3. Your e-mailed questions will take a little time for responses since the instructor will be available, but s/he will not necessarily be online when you are.
4. Testing online is controlled and time is limited so that once you start your test, you must complete it. Some members may find the process challenging and need to use the self-study quizzes for practice first.
5. The completion certificate will be mailed to you by USPS Headquarters once they have received word of your completion.

For more information go to:

[http://www.usps.org/national/eddept/s/online\\_sea.htm](http://www.usps.org/national/eddept/s/online_sea.htm)

or find the Seamanship Online logo on the main Educational Department web page.

## A VHF Primer, the Use and Misuse of the VHF.

“Mayday, Mayday, this is the Sand Boy”, then silence. A moment later, “Mayday, Mayday, this is the Sand Boy “.

The Coast Guard responded, “Vessel Sand Boy, this is Coast Guard Station Sector Hampton Roads. Please state your position and the nature of your emergency.” The request was met with silence. Could the boat have gone down that quickly?

I was in a high speed cruiser on the west side of Walnut Island, less than a half a mile from the inlet. As soon as I heard the initial call, I headed out, violating (don’t tell anyone) the slow speed zone.

The Coast Guard again, “Vessel Sand Boy, Coast Guard Station Sector Hampton Roads. Please state your position and the nature of your emergency.”

Finally, a response, “Coast Guard, I’m out by the sea buoy. My engine won’t start. I’ve got my sails up but am going to need some help getting through the inlet.”

At that moment, a collective look of disgust clouded the face of every knowledgeable boater who had been standing by to respond, if needed, to the emergency. But his use of a MAYDAY call was an example of ignorance and inexperience (and could have subjected him to a \$10,000.00 fine.)

A VHF radio is one of the most important tools on board a boat. Like any other tool, however, there are right ways and wrong ways to use it. The quickest way to determine the competence of a boater is not by his docking abilities but by his use of the radio. A professional will never abuse the VHF frequencies. He knows only too well that someone’s life may depend on his ability to communicate.

D/Lt Dwain Rodman, AP



**This young boater knows the proper way to use a VHF radio. Do all of your passengers know, too?**



# Power of One Awards

## Squadron Awards

Northern Neck  
Rockville  
Salisbury  
Sue Island  
York

## One new member:

Kent Narrows  
Van J. LaFerme  
Edward H. Reiss, Jr., AP

Nansemond River  
David Hernly, Sr.

Patuxent River  
Wes Gleason, JN  
Wendy B Headrick, AP  
Richard D. Jenkins

Patapsco River  
Thomas C. Schatz, P

Pennsway  
Joseph Ritts, AP

Rappahannock  
Bruce V. DeSimone, AP

Richmond  
John M Dolan III, N  
James P. Zeigler, SN

Wilmington  
Reade Y. Tompson, SN  
Dennis Wallace, P

## Individual winners:

## Twenty New Members

Wilmington  
Robert Mahaney, AP

## Ten New Members

Kingsway  
Drew Stanwyck, P

Ocean City  
Janice Stevenson, P

Richmond  
Dallas Wampler, SN

## Mark 5

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Articles, opinions and advertisements  
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D/Lt John Malatak, AP (Mid-Potomac)

## Spring Conference / Change-of-Watch

We are on course to closing out another Bridge year in D/5. This year will again bring us to Ocean City and the Princess Royale. The dates scheduled are 27-30 March 2008.

Planning for the event is well underway. Hospitality rooms will kick off the weekend on Friday night, and with 28 rooms available in the Atrium - every squadron will have an opportunity to participate. Then on Saturday we will open with the Spring Conference and Officer Training Sessions. At the Saturday night banquet and Change-of-Watch we will say goodbye to our current Commander and welcome in the new District 5 Bridge.

Forms and schedule updates are on the D/5 web page [www.uspsd5.org](http://www.uspsd5.org). Make plans now to come to Ocean City and usher in a new year with D/5.

Be the first at Spring Conference to correctly solve the anagram hidden above and win a prize. Submit your entries to the Past Commander of the sponsoring squadron at Spring Conference.



Join the Quest...

D/5 website is:  
[www.uspsd5.org](http://www.uspsd5.org)



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## Dated Material

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### Upcoming Events

19 - 24 Feb 2008	Annual Meeting Hyatt, Dallas, Texas
27 - 30 March 2008	D/5 Spring Conference Ocean City, Maryland
2-3 May 2008	NOAA Workshop MOA Norfolk, Virginia
11-17 July 2008	District Cruise
17-20 July 2008	Summer Council and Rendezvous Baltimore, Maryland

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