



UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS
SAIL AND POWER BOATING
DISTRICT 32

Commander's Report Spring Conference 2011

It has been a great year. Even though I didn't accomplish everything I wanted to, I feel it was a successful year.

My year began with Spring Conference and District Change of Watch in Washougal at the Dolphin Yacht Club. There were 30 people crammed into the Puffin Friday night. The DYC was packed Saturday with more members attending than we have had in a long time. The banquet was great and room was full. Everyone in attendance had a good time.

We had a great Rendezvous with 30 boats in attendance. The food was good and the company was wonderful. I received my On the Water Training for Boat Operator Certification, Inland Navigator, there and definitely feel this is a worthwhile program. I have been told that my certificate is in the mail.

Fall Conference was a blast and I am sorry if you were unable to attend. The breakout sessions were informative and business went smoothly. The dinner theme was Gilligan's Island. There were several Gingers,



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Skippers and Mr. and Mrs. Howells. We had a lot of fun being out of character or maybe more in character than we like to admit.

One of my goals this year was to improve communications with the membership. I believe we accomplished this by having on line bridge meetings via Skype for anyone who wanted to attend.

We also went electronic with 32 Points. I am learning how to use Sail Angle which is a great tool. National uses it to send out monthly notices. There is a forum page for discussions and a calendar for events. Mass e-mails can be sent to any group you belong to. It is easier than when I send e-mails out from my computer. There is one click of send instead of using 6 different address groups. This changed saved us over \$1,000 in printing and mailing costs.

We used e-mail to send out meeting notices to all the members of District 32. One problem is to identify members without valid e-mail addresses so we can send out notices via snail mail. We also need to be sure all information is kept up to date. The update process is easy if members will notify the squadron secretary when a change is made. DB2000 can be used to make the changes. It is quick, easy and local. No more waiting for national to make the change.



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At the National Annual Meeting, in Orlando, we learned that membership was beginning to take a turn upward for a change. It appears that the changes being made at national are beginning to work. Offering membership with classes is working. Have you tried it? Cyber members have increased greatly. As soon as you get notified of a cyber member, contact them and inviting them to join one of our squadrons. By-law changes were made and that means all districts and squadrons need to address the changes also. Rules Committees need to download the sample by-laws and update you're them accordingly.

As I leave, I know District 32 will be in good hands with Steve Gatton. He will do a great job but needs our support.

Thank you,

DC Phyllis Sines, JN