



## Midwestern Pilot

Spring 2022

District 30 Celebrating 47 years 1975-2022



### Commander's Corner



Welcome to 2022, hopefully we are through the worst and can start getting back to a more normal daily routine than we have experienced the last 2 years.

I have missed seeing everyone in person. I appreciate those who were able to attend the Fall Conference and hope to see more of you for the next Fall Conference.

Congratulations to our newest Life Member Anne Hammond. Kansas City for 50% growth, second place in Div 4. I have the web design awards, Congratulations to America's Boating Club Colorado, America's Boating Club Four Rivers, America's Boating Club Grand Lake and District 30 Webmasters; Newsletter Editor awards America's Boating Club Colorado and Grand Lake, I will mail out the certificates soon. Wonderful to see our people receive recognition.

Last fall at the Conference we had talked about Regionalization. The Adhoc committee established to explore options has determined that regionalization simply is not feasible, it does not address the real issues we face in trying to maintain and grow our membership. It will not meet the varied needs of our local clubs. So we are now working on reorganization.

I sent out to the commanders a copy of the reorganization plan from the ADHOC committee to review and share with their

members. I want everyone to be aware of what we are trying to do to bring America's Boating Club into the present and make it a more streamlined, functional organization. Change is hard, but we must make some changes to move forward and grow. There will be some upcoming town halls to present the proposed changes, I encourage everyone to try to attend one of the online sessions if able. I will let you know the dates as they are announced. For more detailed information read the article on the Ensign page at this link:

<https://theensign.org/reorganization-update/>

Basically National recognizes that the existing structure does not meet the needs of the local clubs and the administrative processes can create more problems than solutions. Districts will most likely be going away, with the improvements in direct communication there is no longer a need for a liaison structure to get the information to the local clubs. There will be changes made to enable headquarters and the National organization to provide more direct one on one support at the local level. A club support committee will be established at the national level with the intent of providing subject matter and problem solving assistance to local clubs as they encounter issues. This should help streamline response times and troubleshooting. There will be bylaws changes and Operational changes as this progresses. The hope is to do the town halls, work with rules and other committees to set up a special online

meeting for a vote on proposed changes and start implementing changes by 2023. This is an ambitious timeline and subject to change as obstacles may pop up.

There are things we will need to discuss as a district in order to put our affairs in order and determine how to distribute or use district funds to benefit our squadrons as the changes are made. So your input will be appreciated. Remember if I do not know the answer, we will find one together.

The District bridge is ready and willing to assist in any way we can. Please be a part of the solution, all viewpoints and input are welcome. However if you disagree give me an alternative suggestion not just “it won’t work”. We are at the point we must change or the organization we all have enjoyed and supported will cease to exist. I love all the friends and traveling I have done representing the District over the years. Those will always be vital to me and I will keep contact with my friends no matter what. I still believe the Organization has much to offer, we just need to move into the new century. Remember Boating, Fun and Education are all part of our mission as America’s Boating Club, United States Power Squadron®.

*D/C Tracy Simpson, Ap  
America’s Boating Club  
Heartland*

## Executive Department



VSC Stickers are now available, please let me know if you need some or have questions regarding VSC’s.

Safe Boating Week is coming May 21-27, 2022. Start Planning now for a great week!

*Executive Officer Kent Simpson, AP  
America’s Boating Club  
Heartland*

## Education Department



February was the 2022 Annual Meeting in Ponte Vedra Florida. As your newly appointed District Education Officer I was unable to attend. However, most of the information and PowerPoints presented are online as a Share File. There is a lot of information, so I am making slow progress through the material.

I would like to share my first pursuit and that was the America’s Boating Channel update.

America’s Boating Channel is “our” video service. In 2021, the Boating Channel recorded 10,711 hours of viewing, with 253,819 video view, leading to over 2 million impressions. These numbers include 6,130+ subscriptions, 96% of which were non-subscribers. 46% were ages 35-54, 38% 18-34, and 16% 55+.

Many of the videos are produced by local squadrons. If your squadron wishes to participate in the making of a safety video, you need a field producer to recruit participants and a minimum of ten (10) boats. America’s Boating Channel will provide the video recording sessions and talent casting. To schedule a field production, contact Charlie Saytanides, Sue Kuemmel, or Rose Stano.

The videos can be used in many ways such as a theme for a member meeting, included on your website, Facebook post, boat shows, etc. The goal is to create a greater viral presence through cross promoting on:

YouTube  
Facebook  
Twitter  
Instagram

Pinterest  
LinkedIN  
tumblr.  
Reddit



**The 10 most popular America's Boating Channel videos, from least to most viewed are:**

10. MMSI
9. Getting on Plane and Operating on Plane
8. Anchoring a Boat
7. PWC Docking
6. Choosing the Best Life Jacket
5. Life Jackets for Children
4. Docking
3. Stopping a Boat on Plane
2. PWC Person Overboard and Roll-overs
1. Navigation Rules FAQ

**The 2022 Current focus is on Season 6 with titles that include:**

- Defensive Boating
- Fire Extinguisher Regulations
- Electronic Charts and Virtual Atons
- Commercial Traffic
- Trailing a Boat
- Life Jacket Wear
- Boat Operator Responsibilities
- Navigating Inlets
- Electronic Visual Distress Signals
- Capacity Compliance

The videos are high quality and I recommend you visit and view the titles in the America's Boating Channel video library if you have not already been to the library.

**HELPFUL LINKS:**

Emergency Virtual Classroom (EVC) authorization: NASBLA Executive Board authorized extension through 12-31-2022 but is state specific. Links at National for state information are:

**Presentation Material**

<https://www.usps.org/departments/13000/13000-curriculum/2017-02-13-23-38-48/2017-02-14-00-19-26/13170-abc-state-specific-presentation-material>

**State specific questions**

<https://www.usps.org/departments/13000/13000-curriculum/2017-02-13-23-38-48/2017-02-14-00-19-26/13170-abc-state-specific-exam-questions>

**State Rules and Regulations**

<https://www.usps.org/departments/13000/13000-curriculum/2017-02-13-23-38-48/2017-02-14-00-19-26/13170-state-rules-and-regulations>

**State MOU**

<https://www.usps.org/departments/13000/13000-curriculum/2017-02-13-23-38-48/2017-02-14-00-19-26/13170-state-mous>

- Authorization approved by state letter
- All are encouraged to teach some ABC3 classes virtually

**Basics of HQ-800 Tutorial Presentation**

**Available for Download**

The February 2022 HQ-800 MP4 tutorial presented at the Annual Meeting to the DEOs in Ponte Vedra is available from Share File via this

link <https://uspowersquadrons.sharefile.com/d-se5bb0bd56c334d0a9e0ac5fff65a9331>.

(13 Mar 22)

**CURRENTS MAGAZINE (Education)**

[https://www.usps.org/images/eddept/files/Ccurrents\\_Annual\\_Mtg\\_2022-02.pdf](https://www.usps.org/images/eddept/files/Ccurrents_Annual_Mtg_2022-02.pdf)

**ANNUAL MEETING 02/2022**

**EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

**CONSOLIDATED REPORTS:**

<https://www.usps.org/images/eddept/files/condeddept2202.pdf>

Enjoy a season of safe boating and be sure to share your knowledge with friends and friends you meet along the way.

*DEO Terry Elia, JN  
America's Boating Club  
Heartland Region*



## News around the District:

America's Boating Club Grand Lake recently had a booth in the Grand Lake Boat Show. They gave away almost 100 free PFDs to kids, thanks to a grant from the GRDA (lake authority). They also had nine individuals express an interest in joining the club and several sign up for the upcoming ABC class.

Check out their newsletter at

[https://www.grandlakeusps.com/uploads/8/5/8/9/85897684/3march\\_pelicana.pdf](https://www.grandlakeusps.com/uploads/8/5/8/9/85897684/3march_pelicana.pdf)

### America's Boating Club - Colorado

has an awesome newsletter, check it out

<https://www.abc-co.org/docs/beacon.pdf>.



## Help Wanted!

Have you filled out a resume for national recently?

Committees at National, District and Squadron/club are always looking for experience, a fresh outlook, perspective. You need to be able to respect opinions, have a willingness to discuss, willingness to serve, sometimes compromise or share that dissenting opinion, positive outlook.

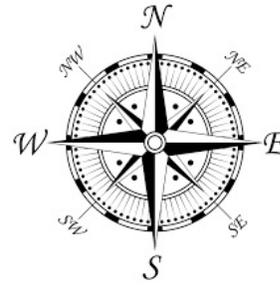
Be willing to step up and serve, be part of the solution, not part of the problem. If you want change to happen all must be involved.

We are always looking for new volunteers at all levels to help make forward progress and grow, not just do the same old thing.

## Administrative Dept

We are looking for suggestions for future Fall conferences, Is there somewhere you want to visit? An adventure we could participate in as a group? On the water, Off the water? You need

to help us decide where and when we meet, what we do. Come enjoy some friendship and Fun!



### Nautical Trivia:

The artist responsible for the famous painting "Arrangement in Gray and Black No. 1: Portrait of the Artist's Mother" (commonly known by another title), learned the technique of etching through his work with the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey. What was his name, and what was his job with the USC&GS?

## Secretary Dept

Heads up if you are looking for Operations Manual information, Historian information or Flag and Etiquette see Heritage and Documents Committee in the National Secretary's Dept. The committees have been merged to streamline and make it easier to maintain all the documents they are responsible for. The changes are pending on the website and site index may still list the individual subjects, but they will all link to the new committee very shortly.



### Trivia Answer:

The Artist was James Whistler, Chartmaker, surveyor and cartographer.

