

'FILES AND PROFILES' FROM THE DISTRICT

"The Dixie District" - - - District 17 2006 January

CHARLES F. CHAPMAN AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING HONORING OUR BEST TEACHERS

by P/V/C Jim Roeber, SN,
Past National Educational Officer

Through 19 years of formal education and numerous company training and continuing education courses, I figure I've been exposed directly to well over 160 different teachers, instructors, and professors. Of that number, three stand out clearly in my memory: "Fatty" Ferguson, "Cap" Steckel, and Herb Davison. Those names don't mean a thing to you. But they do to me. I credit each of these three people with having a major impact on my life in helping to develop my love of learning.

None of them was a world leader. I doubt that any appeared in "Who's Who in America." But each was an inspiring teacher. They knew their subject matter well, but didn't flaunt it. They knew how to present new ideas and concepts in a challenging way. They were able to put themselves in the shoes of the student to whom the subject matter was new and a little bit scary. They taught me to think for myself, to search for solutions. They led me to want to learn. In my book, they were my greatest teachers.

My hunch is that your schooling experiences have not been too different from mine. Most of your teachers were probably competent. Some were outstanding. A few were great.

And so it is within USPS. In the 450 squadrons of USPS, we have literally thousands of active teachers giving freely of their time and talent every year to present our courses. Most do a reasonably good job of presenting the material. Some are outstanding. A handful are great.

Each year the Educational Department conducts an extensive search through every squadron and district to identify and recognize five of our very best instructors. This search and recognition program leads up to the presentation at the USPS Annual Meeting in January of the **Charles F. Chapman Award for Excellence in Teaching**. (Continued on page 2, "Chapman Award Winner")



P/C R. Herman Green, AP
Chattanooga Squadron

"In testimony of his 20 + years of teaching U. S. Power Squadron courses, P/C R. Herman Green, AP, Chattanooga Sail & Power Squadron, was one of five winners of the Charles F. Chapman Award for Excellence in Teaching at the U. S. Power Squadrons Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida, January 7, 2006.

Over the 20 + year span, Herman has taught Seamanship, Piloting, Advanced Piloting, Marine Electronics, Sail and Weather in addition to teaching the Squadron Boating Course and Boat Smart. He has a unique ability to transfer knowledge to his students with an enthusiasm that ignites the students desire to learn. Participation is high as students seek to share their personal experiences and/or to clarify their understanding of the concepts presented.

Herman is also certified by the State of Tennessee to administer the Boat Operator Certification Test to teenagers. The statewide pass rate for this test has been 50%. Herman has taught the course material to teens in Chattanooga high schools and the pass rate for his students stands at 100%."

--As submitted to National by P/C Green's
DEO, P/D/C John P. Cook, SN

“The Chapman Award Winner”

(continued from page 1)

The *Charles F. Chapman Award for Excellence in Teaching* is clearly the highest recognition award given to any individual in USPS. Winners of the *Charles F. Chapman Award for Excellence in Teaching* are honored in several ways. Each receives a recognition plaque at the Annual Meeting and has his/her name inscribed in a permanent log book in the Chapman Memorial Library at USPS headquarters in Raleigh. Each winner's squadron is presented a high quality Astra IIIb sextant in a handsome wood carrying case, given in the winner's name. The sextants are provided jointly by USPS and a grant from Hearst Marine Books. (To read P/V/C Roeber's article in its entirety, log on to the USPS National Website). * * * *



TIPPING THE SCALES

Since the average weight of adults was last incorporated into standards for passenger boats in 1960, Americans have, shall we say, expanded in girth. So much so that the U. S. Coast Guard announced in October that it is launching a revision of weight capacities for passenger carrying commercial vessels. It is likely that once new weights are established for commercial vessels, they will also be applied to recreational boats. All recreational boats less than 20 feet in length have weight capacity plates per Coast Guard regulations.

The impetus for the 27 October *Federal Register* notice was the capsizing of the tour boat *Ethan Allen* last summer on Lake George, NY, in which 20 people were killed. First reports indicated that the boat was overloaded, however it turned out that the boat was a few passengers short of its legal capacity. The cause of the capsizing is still being investigated.

In 1960, the average weight of passengers was set at 140 pounds, or 160 if only adults were on board. Today 30% of adults are obese, according to the Centers for Disease Control, up from 14% in 1976-1980. The airline industry has already updated its standards and set the average weight for adult passengers with carry-on bags at 190 pounds. It was increased from 170 pounds in August.

- Reprinted by permission
from the *Boat U.S. Magazine*, January 2006
* * *

Name Change for BoatU.S. Marine Centers

On 01 February 2006 most BoatU.S. store locations will be changing their names to West Marine. Approximately eight BoatU.S. stores will remain under the BoatU.S. name primarily due to existing leasehold agreements.

It's hard to believe that the BoatU.S. Marine Centers and West marine stores have been operating as one company for almost three years. During that time, West Marine has been working to align both chains by adopting the best practices of each across the entire company. Since the stores now offer the same products and services in every location, West marine can operate them more efficiently and for less cost under a single name.

We are long-term strategic partners with West Marine, and they will continue to sell BoatU.S. Memberships and Towing packages along with promoting our Insurance and Finance programs in over 400 of their stores.

- - - from *E-line for BoatU.S. Members*



HOW TO BE A WINNER

Golfer Arnold Palmer has never flaunted his success. Although he has won hundreds of trophies and awards, the only trophy in his office is a battered little cup that he got for his first professional win at the Canadian Open in 1955.

In addition to the cup, he has a lone framed plaque on the wall. The plaque tells you why he has been successful on and off the golf course. It reads:

“If you think you are beaten, you are.
If you think you dare not, you don't.
If you like to win but think you can't,
It's almost certain that you won't.

Life's battles don't always go
To the strong woman or man,
But sooner or later, those who win
Are those who think they can.”

Comment:

**DISTRICT 17
SPRING 2006 CONFERENCE
17-19 MARCH 2006
FOUR POINTS SHERATON HOTEL
1000 GLENN HEARN BLVD.
HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA**



The Four Points Sheraton Hotel is located directly INSIDE the Huntsville International Airport. Featured within this facility are 146 guest rooms, a full service restaurant, bar and room service. In addition, a pool with cabana area, golf course, and a fitness center is available.

The sales manager, Delores Dawson, has worked extremely well with us in reaching the needs set out by the Meetings Committee and the district members. For example, the parking fees have been waived when using the hotel's parking lot; the registration desk will validate your parking ticket, even if you live nearby and do not stay overnight at the hotel.)

All guest rooms have been recently redecorated with new color scheme and complimentary high-speed Internet access, satellite, pay-per-view movies and games, coffee makers, hairdryers, irons and ironing boards.

The price of the room has been negotiated at sixty-seven (\$67.00) dollars plus tax. When making reservations, contact the hotel at (256) 772-9661 and be sure to tell the reservation clerk that you are a member of the "District 17, United States Power Squadrons,". This will ensure that the special rate will be given you. Also, the hotel will make a special effort to book our rooms as much as possible on the same floor. When one floor is filled, the guest floor just beneath the filled one will

begin to be booked. That is just one more reason to get your reservations in early! "First come, first served!"

Break-out sessions are being discussed at the present time. By the time next month's issue is scheduled to be published, the schedule and topics of those sessions will be finalized.

Delores Dawson, the Sales Manager for Four Points, will have complimentary coffee, water and mints at the tables during our business sessions and break-out hours. She and Mr. Scott, the General Manager, have been most gracious and generous in our planning.

The Huntsville Squadron will play a major role in making the conference a success. They are beginning with their plans to involve their members in getting some of the many segments started that makes for a successful meeting.

* * *

IT'S STILL COLD IN THE SOUTH



We have boaters itching to get out there and do some boating. Cabin Fever sets in and the itch gets worse! It seems time passes by rapidly when we stay busy and most of the people I know in our district are busy. I have found out that busy people are the ones who get things done; they just manage their time and put things in perspective.

So another great year has come and gone. It has been a year of both challenges and success stories. Thank you for working with me this year, for all the support and encouragement I have received and the cooperation you have shown in completing tasks.

--- D/Lt/C Janis Owen, JN
"Files and Profiles" Editor

District 17 2006 Spring Conference
United States Power Squadrons
Hosted by the District Meetings Committee
And the Huntsville Squadron
The Four Points Sheraton Hotel
1000 Glenn Hearn Blvd.
Huntsville, AL 35824
(256) 772-9661
Meals Reservation Form

Name (Print) _____

Spouse/Guest (Print) _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Friday Night, 17 March 2006

Dinner Buffet - Mixed Green Salad with Dressings
Pasta Bar with Sauces
Garlic Bread
Coffee, Iced tea
_____ Tickets @ \$12.00 per person \$ _____

Saturday Noon, 18 March 2006

Lunch Served in the Bayou Grille -
"Croissant Special"
Cold Cuts of Ham and Turkey
With Cheeses
Fresh Fruit Cup
Coffee, Iced tea
_____ Tickets @ \$9.50 per person \$ _____

Saturday Night, 18 March 2006

"Sit-down" Plated Dinner -
Green Salad with Dressings
Filet Mignon and Chicken Breast
with Wild Rice Pilaf
Prince William Blend of Vegetables
Rolls, Butter
Assorted Desserts
Coffee, Iced Tea
_____ Tickets @ \$17.00 per person \$ _____

TOTAL SUBMITTED \$ _____

NOTE: All meals are inclusive of tax and gratuity.

Meal reservations must be received no later than 05 March 2006.

Make checks payable to: District 17 Meetings Committee

Mail check and this completed form to:
Ben's E-mail Address: N7LBW@juno.com

Ben Owen
P. O. Box 454
Pell City, AL 35125

**SQUADRON CHANGES OF WATCH
AND INCOMING COMMANDERS**

As this issue is being sent to you, we are right in the middle of our squadron Changes of Watch. We are seeing new leadership take the helm with fresh thoughts and progressive ideas

Two of our squadrons, Montgomery and Chattanooga, held their festivities this past weekend, with Willis Michaels and John DiPrima taking the helm. Certainly we have strong leadership from these two Commanders!

Again this year, it would be thoughtful if the newsletter editors published the information of all the Changes of Watch within the District 17. Some of the members of different squadrons enjoy being guests during their friends' "Coronations". Notice that no dates conflict with each other; I think this is a "first!" So if you wish to attend each other's ceremony, go for it. The information below is being published so you may plan well in advance if you wish to attend any of the functions.

<u>Squadron</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Incoming Commander</u>
Asheville	January 25	John Smith, S
<u>D17 Representative: D/C Marshall Herron, SN</u>		
Atlanta	February 26	Margaret Sherrod, JN
<u>D17 Representative: D/Lt/C Janis Owen, JN</u>		
Huntsville	February 18	Harold D. DeHart, P
<u>D17 Representative: D/Lt/C Tom Carey, SN</u>		
Johnson City	January 28	Sean Herron, AP
<u>D17 Representative: D/C Marshall Herron, SN</u>		
Knoxville	February 25	*Robert S. Allen, P
<u>D17 Representative: D/C Marshall Herron, SN</u>		
Memphis	February 2	Maggie Poston, S
<u>D17 Representative: D/Lt/C Becky Austin, P</u>		
Muscogee	January 29	Charles E. Hall, Sr., S
<u>D17 Representative: P/D/C Glenn Cowham, SN</u>		
Music City	February 12	Lyle Fuson, AP
<u>D17 Representative: P/D/C Glenn Cowham, SN</u>		
Oak Ridge	March 11	Mac Hogle, AP
<u>D17 Representative: D/C Marshall Herron, SN</u>		
Rome	March 4	TBA
<u>D17 Representative: D/Lt/C Danny Tompkins, JN</u>		
Vulcan	February 23	TBA
<u>D17 Representative: D/Lt/C Tom Carey, SN</u>		

(*denotes this commander will be serving a second consecutive Watch.)

The District 17 Change of Watch is scheduled 17-19 March in Huntsville, Alabama. Our District Executive Officer, Tom Carey will be sworn in as our District Commander. The Chief Commander's representative will be V/C Spencer Anderson, SN,

National Education Officer. Make your plans now to be there! * * *

"I've learned that whenever I decide something with an open heart, I usually make the right decision. I've learned that even when I have pains, I don't have to be one. And I've learned that every day you should reach out and touch someone."

--- Unknown



MEMBER BENEFITS

**DO YOUR KNOW ABOUT USPS
BOAT INSURANCE?**

USPS policy will pay up to \$500,000 per occurrence of covered pollution cost or expenses.

Do you know USPS gives reduced rates on your Boat Insurance for Education classes?

Here is how it works. . . .

<u>Basic Courses</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Seamanship	2.5% (2.5% for each
Piloting	2.5% course for a
Advanced Piloting	2.5% max of 7.5%)

<u>Elective Courses</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Marine Electronics	2.5%
Engine Maintenance	2.5% (2.5% for each
Weather	2.5% course for a
Sail	2.5% max of 7.5%)

Maximum credit for all three basic courses and Three or four Electives total 15% reduction in rates. "Full Certificates" (SN Grade) an additional 5%.

Annual VSC Certification an additional 3%

It Pays to Be Educated!!

* * *

And now my most favorite cartoon for cold weather and dreams of snow flakes!

I made myself a snowball,
As perfect as could be,
I thought I'd keep it as a pet,
And let it sleep with me.
I made it some pajamas,
And a pillow for its head,
Then last night it ran away,
But first-- it wet the bed.



Stay warm, healthy and happy 'til we meet again next month. **J anis Owen**