



# District 28 Lead Line



## FALL ISSUE 2022

## Commander's Report

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D/C ALLAN BOMBARD, JR

A hoy there, everyone~

I hope that everyone in our wonderful District is having a great summer, be it with family, friends, solo – or all of the above! The Admiral and I spent a wonderful two weeks driving across our beautiful country, and Canada, during early June and now seem to have settled into our summer routine. Even as we 'chill', much is going on in **District 28** and across the organization nationally. I'll reflect on a few of the events I've been charting recently.

**First**, thank each and every one of you for allowing me to represent you as the "new" District 28 Commander. Although it's been 4 months since our change of watch, you've kept me busy. As many of you have learned, our **Phoenix Sail & Power Squadron** has opted to transfer to **District 30**, a mostly inland-based group of America's Boating Clubs® like Phoenix.

The District Conference gathered electronically in a special meeting and unanimously supported their transfer, hoping that their transition will better serve the boating, educational, and social interest of the Phoenix Club Members. Similarly, the Club Commanders and other officers of the District 30 Bridge met and also unanimously voted to approve the Phoenix move.

### 2022

- 13 MARCH: D28 HOLLAND AMERICA LINE CRUISE—MEXICAN RIVIERA
- 11—18 SEPTEMBER: FALL GOVERNING BOARD MEETING, RALEIGH NC.
- 11 DECEMBER: ABC SAN DIEGO—PARADE OF LIGHTS & BBQ
- 14 DECEMBER: ABC OCEANSIDE CHRISTMAS PARTY

### 2023

- JANUARY 18/25: ABC OCEANSIDE CHANGE OF WATCH
- JANUARY 21: ABC SAN DIEGO CHANGE OF WATCH
- 19-26 FEBRUARY: USPS/AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB ANNUAL MEETING—ORLANDO, FL.
- 25 MARCH: D28 CONFERENCE SAN DIEGO—SOUTHWESTERN YACHT CLUB**
- 18—30 JUNE: ABC ALASKA CRUISE M.S. "NIEUW AMSTERDAM"

Lead Line Editor & Publisher  
D/1 Lt Jill Powell, AP  
Phone/Cell: 760-716-1675  
E-mail: [uspsleadline@earthlink.net](mailto:uspsleadline@earthlink.net)  
<http://www.AmericasBoatingClubD28.org/>

Continued on Page 4



<https://www.facebook.com/USPSD28/>

BALBOA



PHOENIX



SAN DIEGO



OCEANSIDE/SAN LUIS REY





**BARRY BEAN, DOUG BASS, SUE ANN BEAN, ALLAN BOMBARD, CIDA DIEHL AND MARYPAIGE ABBOTT**



***D28 Bridge 2022/3***



**MEMBERSHIP HONORABLE MENTION: DEB OBERG AND MARYPAIGE ABBOTT**



**"PINNED"**



**CDR ALLAN BOMBARD AND "THE ADMIRAL" PAULA VANCE**



**CIDA DIEHL**



**BARRY BEAN AND MARYPAIGE ABBOTT**



## BUILDING MOMENTUM FOR BOC

Written by Tom Ryley, SEO of America's Boating Club Hilton Head

District 26 found themselves with a challenge this past year... they were very anxious to use the **Boat Operator Certification** program as a cornerstone for encouraging members to focus and expand their boating education. However, the District was quite short of Certifiers in a number of squadrons that were available to train and evaluate BOC candidates.

As a way to get things on track, a plan was hatched to run a **District wide BOC School**. The BOC School would accomplish two goals:

- *To accredit candidates for Inland Navigator (IN) and Coastal Navigator (CN) in regards to their "on the water" skills requirement.*
- *To qualify new Certifiers for IN and CN, and to energize and encourage BOC in the individual D26 squadrons.*

A key step forward happened at the **USPS National meeting at Ponte Vedra, FL** where **Commander Peter Dion of Hilton Head** happened to meet **Rear Commander Shawn Goit, Chair of the National Boat Operator Certification** committee. Peter told Shawn about the District BOC idea... and although Shawn lives on the other coast in **San Diego**, he said he would be pleased to come east to be the Certifier Trainer for the school participants.



BALBOA



PHOENIX



SAN DIEGO



OCEANSIDE/SAN LUIS REY



**Commander's Report** *Continued from Page 1.*

Our support of the Phoenix transfer was relayed to the National Executive Officer (*to whom District Commanders report*), who will make a motion at the **September Governing Board meeting in Raleigh** to formally approve the transfer. Assuming that vote passes, Phoenix will transfer from District 28 to District 30 after the end of the fiscal year, November 01. We all wish our fellow USPS/ABC Members in the Phoenix Club fair winds and following seas!

**Second**, I'm very pleased that several of our District Clubs have been quite active offering educational activities for Members and the public. **P/D/C Jan Follestad, SN**, now the ABC - Oceanside CEO (*Club Education Officer*), has come up with a terrific idea, one that I hope to participate in later in the year. One of our central organization tenets is educating the boating public, but to do that we need instructors. Jan has proposed combing ABC classes with Instructor Development: have the students getting their USPS Instructor Certification use the ABC classes as the teaching vehicle for their course. Brilliant! Me, I am thoroughly entrenched in the final stages of the **Navigation Course**. When (*and hopefully if*) I finish that, I look forward to joining Jan's program. In the meantime, I'll be standing watch on his progress. It will be a great model for the entire USPS/ABC educational effort.

Finally, a bit about the national reorganization initiative. As many of you know, I'm privileged to have been asked to participate in the USPS/ABC ad hoc **Committee on Reorganization**. OK, I didn't back up soon enough when everyone else they asked quickly took a step back. It's been a wonderful learning experience for me, as I've had no substantive exposure to the national segment of the organization, except for the support that The Admiral and I give to the annual educational fund (*in memory of P/D/C Katie Law, SN*) and to the Ship's Store.

The Members on the Committee have been wonderful to work with, are geographically diverse, and offer many years of experience. Everyone on the committee is dedicated to finding ways to simplify the USPS with a laser focus on Members and Clubs. Although the exercise began with the thought of compacting Districts into Regions, or doing away with Districts altogether, we formally recommended to the

Board that the fate of Districts be decided by the Clubs and Members they serve. If value is perceived, great; if not, follow a path which will allow the Clubs and Members to better serve their own educational, social, and boating needs – and improve public safety.

The work of the Committee as expanded to touching each and every national committee, requesting how each impacts Members and Clubs, how they could streamline and improve those connections, and in what way Member volunteers can get involved at the committees' level to help. We've had 2 volunteers from our District already! The USPS/ABC Board has since directed **District Simplification** issue be addressed by the national **Planning Committee**, and our ad hoc group continues with the other work of simplification and adding value for the Clubs and Members. (*For more information on the work of the Committee, please see related articles in The Ensign.*)

I encourage each of you to get more involved with your local Club, and enjoy the comradery that is there for the taking in our Squadrons.

Respectfully,  
*Allan*

Commander, District 28 [District28ABC@gmail.com](mailto:District28ABC@gmail.com)



**FOR THE FOLLOWING D28 POSITIONS:**

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**D/Lt Vessel Safety Check Chairman**

**Apply [here](#). Text: 1-619-916-7995**



**FREE MARINE FLARE COLLECTION**  
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 DANA POINT HARBOR

Logos: COUNTY OF ORANGE CALIFORNIA, OC Waste & Recycling, CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION, DANA POINT HARBOR PARTNERS

**ATTENTION BOATERS!**

Save the date for a **free** Marine Flare Collection Event in Dana Point Harbor.

©2022 CA State Parks and CA Coastal Commission - Boating Clean & Green Program | 455 Market Street, Suite 228, San Francisco, CA

**WHEN:** Saturday, August 27 in Dana Point Harbor (7am to 1 pm)

**WHERE:** Dana Point Harbor, 34555 Casitas Pl. Dana Point, CA 92629 (Cross Streets Dana Point Harbor & Casitas)

**DETAILS:** Participants will need to bring expired flares to the event. Upon arrival, staff will retrieve items directly from the trunks of vehicles. **Orange County Waste & Recycling** will also welcome walk-up disposal near the restrooms by the marina. **OC Health Care Agency** will be onsite promoting their **Free Bilge Pad Exchange Program**. Participants will receive free boater kit and flare discount coupons courtesy of **California State Parks and California Coastal Commission**.

Bring unwanted or expired marine flares and smoke signals.

**ACCEPTED:** Hand-held flares aerial flares smoke signals.

**NOT ACCEPTED:** Electronic flares, military flares, any other hazardous waste such as paint, oil, e-waste or batteries.

D28 Planning Committee bi-annual Report for the 2022 Watch



The **Planning Committee** has been preparing for the transfer of the **Phoenix Squadron from District 28 to District 30**. This transfer is currently in a review and approval cycle, and it is expected to be effective at the end of the fiscal year.

In anticipation of the approval for the transfer, the sponsoring squadron/club for the 25 March 2023 District 28 Meeting will transfer to San Diego, and the meeting will be held at the **Southwestern Yacht Club**, details to follow. Upon National approval of the transfer the revised **Policies and Procedures** will be submitted for approval.

In the meantime the list of voting members for the district conference has been updated to reflect the 2022 authorized voters. Upon transfer of Phoenix, the members of Phoenix will be removed.

P/D/C Richard Cross, JN - IN  
 Chair, ABC District 28 Planning Committee

**RULES REPORT—AUGUST 2022**

We have reviewed the current, certified, Bylaws of America's Boating Club® District 28 and found no place that needs change in case the ABC Phoenix executes a move from District 28 to another District. We are seeking, from the District Leadership and our Squadron Commanders, either their concurrence or guidance on any actions that the D28 Rules Committee may be required to undertake.

**The D28 Rules Committee consists of**  
 P/D/C Adriaan Veldhuisen – Chair,  
 D/Commander Allan Bombard and P/D/C Richard Cross.



# Save the Date!

## Join America's Boating Club® District 28 Annual Meeting

Saturday, March 25, 2023  
 Southwest Yacht Club, San Diego  
 Time: 0900 Start of meeting,  
 BBQ Lunch on site,  
 Yacht Club Dinner at 5 pm

We have the honor of hosting the Chief Commander **Craig Fraser, SN-IN** at this event!!

Mark your calendar for this important date.  
 Reservations and cost will be available after January 1, 2023

*Aboy Mates!*



I hope your year has been going as well as it has been for the **ABC San Diego**.

After being sidelined the last few years with Covid and lockdowns, we hit the waves head on in January. We started the year with our annual **Change of Watch** where we inducted in our new members, had a changeover of some board positions and congratulated those board members who gave of their time and energy over the years. We also had the great honor to recognize **D/Lt Richard Cross, JN-IN** as the **Volunteer Member of the Year** for his work at both the Club and District level to work out the name change issues. He was assisted by our legal consultant, **Lt Michael Wales**.



In addition to our Change of Watch, we have been able to have 3 other in-person GMM's this year. The most recent GMM was July 10 at **De Anza Cove** on **Mission Bay**. We had a great spot with lots of shade, a wonderful BBQ/Potluck and lots of time to chat! We had almost 30 attendees from both the **San Diego** and **San Luis Rey clubs**, lots of current members and even a few prospective members! A great way to spend a summer afternoon!



Our Education Department (*coordinated by D/Lt/C Doug Bass, SN-IN and Lt Bob Gibbs, JN-IN*) have done an incredible job of offering classes and seminars and encouraging new members to join. We still have plenty more classes and seminars scheduled for the balance of 2022. We are looking forward to a great second half of 2022!! Come join us!

*Deb Oberg*

Commander  
 America's Boating Club San Diego

P.S. The updated SDSPS Bylaws have been reviewed by National and approved.





While speaking to one of the members of our club about our operations over the last two years they stated that *trying to accomplish anything was like sailing against a strong current. No matter how hard you try you don't make much progress.* I think that is an accurate statement but now we're sailing with the current and have the wind at our stern. *Finally.*



RICHELE, CAROLE, BARBARA, FRAN & NANCY



ROSTERS FOR ALL MEMBERS & ASSOCIATES

Over the last couple of years our club membership has been slowly declining and with some extra effort by our **Admin. Officers, Richele and Barbara Daciolas-Semon** our membership numbers have increased. Another large reason for our increase is our **"On the Water"** class taught by **Shawn Goit**. I've received some great feedback from members that have taken the class. Shawn is highly thought of and has travelled across the country to train other trainers for the On the Water class. See Page 4.



POPULAR SUNDOWNERS



EX MEMBER DANIEL WALKER AND HIS MEMORIAL QUILT

For social events and meetings, we've been able to host several events this year including sundowners, restaurant get-togethers and our latest, **Oceanside Harbor** cleanup. We usually have an annual beach cleanup but this year changed it up and had our **First Annual Harbor Cleanup**. Anyone with a kayak, paddle board or dinghy was invited. Organized by our member **Fran La Mons**. It turned out so well we plan to continue again next year.



OCEANSIDE HARBOR CLEAN-UP

Our education department is moving full speed ahead led by **Jan Follestad** and assisted by **Cida Diehl**. So far, we've had an **ABC class, Marine Navigation, Boat Handling, Engine Maintenance** and an **Instructors** course. Coming up we have scheduled **Marine Electronics** and another **ABC** course. We have plans to schedule some of the other advanced courses soon.



GREAT EX COMMS

Of course, you can't run a club without finances and our treasurer **Darryel Simmons** and his assistant **Chris Peavey** are able to keep things in line and running smoothly. Other important contributors are **Secretary Elizabeth Cook, Webmaster Nancy Kangas, Member at Large Jeff Olsen** and **Rules and Law Committee Chair Adriaan Veldhuisen**. Last but certainly not least is **Jill Powell**. Jill publishes this **Lead Line** along with our monthly newsletter, **The Mariner's Needle**. With a love and passion unmatched by another squadron/club. Jill does so much for our squadron that I would have to add an additional page to this report.



FIRE! FIRE! FIRE! CALL SHAWN!



TRIVIA NIGHT AT ARROWOOD GOLF COURSE

Signing off I will add that I feel blessed to have a full bridge with assistants that is such a great group of people to work with. We work well together and I appreciate each and every one of them.



THE MARINER'S NEEDLE

*Cdr. Kirk T. Lippert, JN*



# Notes from Phoenix Sail & Power Squadron America's Boating Club® - Phoenix

Here are some pictures of an event we did in **Laughlin, NV** at the beginning of **April**. We went to an air show there, and had a cookout. We had **members** from **Phoenix**, the old **Lake Mohave Squadron** and **guests** from **District 13** in attendance. We then did some **co-op charting** in **East Phoenix** later in April. We had some *newbies* that we introduced to the fun. **This included some bird house shenanigans after the event.** **Marks** were recovered and submitted despite the fun times at the ghost town.



Phoenix is on a summer hiatus as all of our bridge is traveling. We will resume in late September with a pot luck meeting.





### *Disappointing Contract with Farmers Insurance:*

*All is not as it may seem.....*

On Saturday April 2,  
2022 at 11:45p.m.  
Jill Powell wrote:

Dear Mr. Milton,

I am a Farmers Insurance customer, or as it turns out, a customer of a **Farmers Insurance Agent**.

I was excited to read that Farmers Insurance introduced a Member Benefit program to the **USPS/ABC** members last August 2021.

However, when I went to take advantage of this discount, I was turned down. It took a couple of weeks to get a response from my Farmers Agent, but here it is below:

Dear Jill,

I have checked into this program myself at this point. I have learned today that there is a long story to the creation of this program that I will not boor you with. The bottom line is this, as a Farmers "AGENT", **I cannot offer you this program and the subsequent discounts that it comes with. The Farmers GroupSelect program is only available to those clients that purchase their insurance directly from Farmers, bypassing the agent.** You literally would have to go directly to Farmers, bypassing any agent, you would have to be re-quoted for new insurance policies directly with a Farmers customer service representative agent (*again, you would not be doing business with a traditional Farmers agent*) and you would have to cancel your insurance policies with my agency and your representative's agency in favor of the new policies with the **GroupSelect** program at the discounted rate (*which would leave you with no agent*).

It is disheartening for me to know that such a program exists that advertises for long standing Farmers customers like yourself to leave your trusted Farmers agent and transition to do business directly with the company thereby eliminating the Farmers agent from the equation all for a discounted premium rate.

Here is one thing that I am confident of Jill, these customer service agents are not likely to understand your insurance needs in the way that your agent and I do. They are just insurance *quoters*. You will have to give them your

coverage information yourself, coverage by coverage, so that they can match it. Your agent

sold you your policies based on his understanding of your particular and unique risks. I can see that in the coverages that you selected.

Another thing is that a new policy may very likely have a higher premium than that of which you are paying now as your current policies are seasoned policies with discounting for longevity. My experience is that when a client leaves my agency of Farmers and for instance, attempts to return to my agency the next year, I find that the premium cost for a new policy can be hundreds of dollars more to come back.

So Jill, there is only one thing that I can suggest to you and that is to call the **Farmers GroupSelect program**, tell them that you are a current Farmers insured and ask them how you can get the discounted rates and see where that takes you. And if you do that Jill I would love for you to ask them how cutting your long time Farmers agent out of the equation is beneficial to you. I would love to know how they may be answering that question. I doubt very much that they will have a good answer to that question if they have an answer at all.

I apologize that I cannot offer you the discounting that has been advertised to you Jill. This is a very frustrating situation for me and embarrassing. I wish there was more that I could do for you Jill.

Respectfully,  
**Ron Olson**  
Your friendly Farmers agent

*Good Morning Jill,*

*Unfortunately this is how the program is designed to work. The discount we can offer is for the Group Select program only which needs to be purchased directly from Farmers. Most of the above email that your local agent said is accurate. Insurance companies are able to offer discounted rates to consumers who deal directly with them because it cuts out the local agent's commission, expenses, and overhead of a brick and mortar store. They then in turn can pass some of these discounts on to the consumer.*

*Continued on P. 10*



# Greetings from Balboa Sail & Power Squadron / America's Boating Club®

Recently our inflatable and rib boats cruised the **Newport Harbor** with stops along the way to raft up and exchange food. Then last month we met at the **Lyons Air Museum** with a docent who took us on a wonderful tour.

We have done the following this year: "Down the Danube" by **Wolfgang Kutter**, an Easter potluck, a Duffy harbor cruise, a "doggie" birthday celebration with 10 dogs and doggie cupcakes, then a 4th July Boat Parade and an electrolysis and zinc presentation.

Our next activity is on **August 18 at the El Matador Restaurant in Costa Mesa.**

We have taken on considerable donations to the local **Sea Scouts** troop this year. And maintain the sailboat that we donated several years ago, the "**Del Mar**".

We have an active squadron but poor communication. We are working to improve.



Best Regards, *Commander John Grandi*

## Farmers Insurance *Continued from P. 9*

As Ron said, it has some drawbacks. For one, you wouldn't have a 'dedicated' & local agent that you have a relationship with. If you had any questions it would basically be whoever answered the 800 # on that given day.

For many consumers, myself included, who have simple policies and the agent's role is minimal - this is an acceptable situation. If you prefer to have your dedicated agent and to keep on your existing plan that is also obviously acceptable. There are pluses and minuses to each choice and there is no one answer for each individual.

To be thorough, I will check in with our (America's Boating Club) partner representative at Farmers and confirm that there is no path for existing customers to get any sort of discount without transitioning from the local agent to the Group Select program, but as it was previously explained to me that is not the case. If I am corrected and there is a way I will certainly let you know.

I am sorry that we couldn't be more helpful.

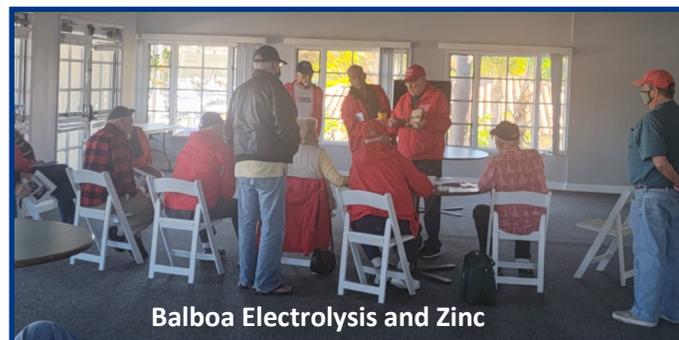
**Stf/C James M Milton, JN** National Member Benefits Committee  
P: 631-681-7650 E: JMilton040@gmail.com  
105 Jefferson St. East Islip, NY 11730



*Wes Heusser receiving Life Pin from Cdr John Grandi*



**The Del Mar**



**Balboa Electrolysis and Zinc**



# D28 SAFETY REPORT



## 5 ESSENTIAL SAFETY ITEMS

**Hello there!** I wanted to revisit in this report a small list of some of the most important safety items to have on board any vessel.

Like I always say, being on the water should never be taken for granted, for there are hazards that exist and dangerous mishaps that can take place at any time.

Below are different types of safety equipment that will prepare anyone to take the proper action in such instances.

### Life Jackets

Probably the most effective device designed to save lives, one life jacket is required for every passenger on board a vessel. Although it is legal to choose not to wear it, always having it on significantly increases chances of survival in the event of an on-the-water incident. Life jackets are required on ALL watercraft, no matter the size.

### Throwable Floatation Devices

Throwable floatation devices such as Life Rings are designed for MOB (Man-Overboard) situations. If for any reason a person is ejected from the boat, they can easily become exhausted or disoriented or both. A Life Ring forms a lifeline from the boat to the passenger and guarantees his/her return to the dry side of the boat.

### Fire Extinguishers

A must have piece of equipment for any vessel with a

gas/electric motor (especially an inboard). A fire extinguisher will save your boat in the harbor and your life miles from the shore. Remember to store it in a highly convenient location that is easily accessible in an emergency situation.

### Visual Distress Signals

Visual Distress Signals such as flares and strobe lights are usually activated when a boater is dead in the water/having difficulty operating their vessel. They are designed to make the distressed boater more visible to nearby boaters and provide an adequate beacon for searching emergency services.

### Sounding Distress Signals

These devices include whistles, boat horns, handheld air horns, etc. Sounding Distress Signals are good for catching the attention of nearby vessels that may not see you. Maybe they aren't paying attention and you want to avoid a potential collision or maybe your VHF radio is not operational and you need help. Either way, it can't hurt to have one aboard.

*D/Lt Jake Alcantara, P*



*Photos in this issue provided by:*

CIDA DIEHL, CONNIE JOHNSON, DEB OBERG, JILL POWELL, JOHN GRANDI AND SHAWN GOIT.



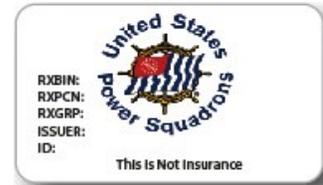
# Setting Sail on the ms. "Koningsdam" - March 2022





*More m.s. "Koningsdam"*

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This cruise offer is supported by the Board of Directors of USPS/America's Boating Club®. It is now open for bookings. The departure is specifically designed to operate during school holidays. Bring your squadron/club members, friends and family—enjoy! **LIMITED AVAILABILITY.**

**AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB® - DISTRICT 28**

**2022—2023 BRIDGE**

**DISTRICT COMMANDER**

D/C Allan T. Bombard, JN

(619) 916-7995

[District28ABC@gmail.com](mailto:District28ABC@gmail.com)



**A/EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

D/LT/C DOUG BASS, SN-IN

(415) 321-9800

[DougBass1@gmail.com](mailto:DougBass1@gmail.com)

**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

D/LT/C DOUG BASS, SN-IN

(415) 321-9800

[DougBsass1@gmail.com](mailto:DougBsass1@gmail.com)

**SECRETARY**

D/LT/C SUE ANN BEAN, AP

(760) 429-8555

[sueabean50@gmail.com](mailto:sueabean50@gmail.com)

**TREASURER**

D/LT/C SUE ANN BEAN, AP

(760) 429-8555

[sueabean50@gmail.com](mailto:sueabean50@gmail.com)

**EDUCATION OFFICER**

D/LT/C SHAWN GOIT, JN-ON

(760) 468-6212

[District28USPS@gmail.com](mailto:District28USPS@gmail.com)

**ASST. EDUCATION OFFICER**

D/1ST/LT CIDA DIEHL, SN-CN

(760) 798-5794

[CidaDiehl@sbcglobal.net](mailto:CidaDiehl@sbcglobal.net)

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

D/LT CHRIS PEAVEY, N-IN

(858) 220-9170

[CPVSLR@gmail.com](mailto:CPVSLR@gmail.com)

**COOPERATIVE CHARTING**

R/C SHAWN GOIT, JN-ON

**SAFETY CHAIRMAN**

D/LT JAKE ALCANTARA, P

(760) 468-6212

[JacobAlcantara@gmail.com](mailto:JacobAlcantara@gmail.com)

**VESSEL SAFETY CHECK**

R/C SHAWN GOIT, JN-ON

**BOC TRAINING CHAIRMAN**

R/C SHAWN GOIT, JN-ON

**EDUCATIONAL FUND**

P/D/C DUANE O. LEATHERS, AP

(858) 6952532

[D.O.Leathers@sbcglobal.net](mailto:D.O.Leathers@sbcglobal.net)

**RULES COMMITTEE**

D/LT ADRIAAN VELDHUISEN, SN-ON

(760) 716-4713

[AWVeldhuisen@gmail.com](mailto:AWVeldhuisen@gmail.com)

**LAW OFFICER**

D/LT MICHAEL WALES

(480) 250-5651

[mwales@waleslaw.com](mailto:mwales@waleslaw.com)

**OPERATIONS TRAINING**

D/LT ADRIAAN VELDHUISEN, SN-ON

(760) 716-4713

[AWVeldhuisen@gmail.com](mailto:AWVeldhuisen@gmail.com)

**WEBMASTER/IT**

D/LT NANCY KANGAS, AP

(858) 208-8693

[NancyWebWizard@gmail.com](mailto:NancyWebWizard@gmail.com)

**PLANNING COMMITTEE**

D/LT RICHARD T. CROSS, JN-IN

(619) 339-2221

[rtcross11@gmail.com](mailto:rtcross11@gmail.com)

**PUBLICATIONS: LEAD LINE & ENSIGN**

D/LT JILL POWELL, AP

(760) 716-1675

[uspsleadline@earthlink.net](mailto:uspsleadline@earthlink.net)

**PUBLIC CONTACT**

R/C SHAWN GOIT, JN-ON

**SQUADRON COMMANDERS:**

BALBOA: CDR JOHN P. GRANDI [jgrandi@aol.com](mailto:jgrandi@aol.com)

ARIZONA: CDR. CONNIE JOHNSON, SN [conniej7us@yahoo.com](mailto:conniej7us@yahoo.com)

SAN DIEGO: CDR. DEBRA ANN OBERG, JN [doberg10@aol.com](mailto:doberg10@aol.com)

OCEANSIDE: CDR. KIRK T. LIPPERT, JN-IN [kl3139@att.com](mailto:kl3139@att.com)