



# 24th Bridge

United States  
Power Squadrons



## District 24



Commander	Jack E. Banister, AP
Executive Officer	D/Lt/C William J. McDonald, AP
Educational Officer	D/Lt/C Thomas R. Larimer, SN
Administrative Officer	D/Lt/C Richard E. Mahrenholz, JN
Secretary	D/Lt/C Keith L. Williams, SN
Treasurer	D/Lt/C Joe Venhoff, AP
Asst. Education Officer	D/1st/Lt/C Tom Wood II, JN

**CHIEF COMMANDER'S REPRESENTATIVE**  
**V/C Joseph R. Mesenburg, SN**



Please meet our Chief's Representative —  
**V/C Joseph R. Mesenburg, SN.**

Joe and his wife, Karen, are both active members of the Columbus Sail & Power Squadron in District 29. In 1988, Joe joined USPS in Columbus, Ohio to further his knowledge on currents and tides following his second cruise from Lake Erie to Florida via the Intracoastal Waterway.

On the squadron level, Joe served as Administrative Officer, Executive Officer and in 1994 Squadron Commander.

In district, he served as Secretary, Administrative Officer, Executive Officer and was District 29 Commander in 2000.

On the national level he served on the Member Involvement Committee, and has served for nine years on the Finance Committee. The past three years he has served on the Operating Committee as Chairman of Finance.

He has also served as an Aide-to-the-Chief for four Chief Commanders – P/C/C Art Farr, SN, P/C/C Lance Jensen, SN, P/C/C Ted Smith, SN, and C/C Les Johnson, SN.

Joe is owner and portfolio manager for J.R. Mesenburg & Associates. His hobbies include hunting, golf, and boating. Joe and his wife spend a considerable amount of time cruising the five Great Lakes aboard their 53' Tollycraft, "Put 'N' Call", which berths both in Sandusky, Ohio and Cheboygan, Michigan.

Joe is a member of the Sandusky Yacht Club, the Cedar Point Yacht Club, the Commodores Cruising Club, the Crews Nest, Inter-Lake Yachting Association, and the Great Lakes Cruising Club. He is a Past Commodore of the Great Lakes Cruising Club and has received the Admiral Bayfield Award for extensive cruising in all five of the Great Lakes."

## Direct Currents

**Do it now!** Fill out your Registration form and make your hotel reservations for this year's Spring Conference and District Change of Watch. The host squadron for this conference, **Hoosier** Sail and Power Squadron, is ready to provide a great weekend of relaxation in the country at Indiana's Clifty Falls State Park near Madison. Plan to be there for the Friday evening affair. You'll be sorry if you miss it.



Be there also to give a big District 24 welcome to the Chief Commander's Representative, V/C Joseph R. Mesenburg, SN, the new national treasurer and his wife Karen. Bill has been the chairman of the national finance committee and was elected national treasurer at the Annual Meeting in Orlando this January. The Mesenburs are members of the Columbus Sail & Power Squadron and make their home in Columbus, Ohio.

I will have a report on happenings at the National Annual Meeting in Orlando.

The business portion of our meeting will be completed during the Saturday morning session. We will devote Saturday afternoon to short seminars. Our goal is to free up the afternoon no later than 1500. Yes, we want a relaxing time in the country, even on Saturday.

We will **not** be nagging you for training aids for the national meeting at this conference. All squadrons were represented at the Annual meeting. The judging is over and your District won its share of awards from the judges. Tom Larimer will be passing these awards out at the spring conference.

**-Our focus on quality is working; keep it up.** At national, we were awarded *Distinction in Journalism* awards for seven of our ten squadrons. Three squadrons won the *2005 WEBSITE AWARD*.

Just remember, you as a **member** have the power to make improvement in squadron quality. Communicate your thoughts, ideas and wants to your bridge officers. I repeat, **raise your level of intolerance**; don't tolerate poor squadron performance; don't be complacent when you notice sloppy performance or leadership. You are not doing your squadron a favor by remaining silent. Your squadron commanders have told me that they want to hear from the membership and want to know about areas where quality can be improved. Examine how YOU can participate in your squadron's

activities and let your leaders know what you expect from your membership. And members, remember that membership is not a spectator sport.

Members...insist on good leadership. If you can do better, offer to be a part of the leadership. Don't be shy in letting your leaders know what you expect from your membership.

**We are winning the quality initiative and it is showing. Keep up the good work!**

Leaders...lead! Don't try to do everything yourself; you'll fail if you do. Ask your members to help. Ask them for ideas. Be inclusive; don't let anyone feel left out.

Squadron leaders, what are you doing to improve the value of membership of your squadron's members? Do you know if all of your members' wants are being met? Is there a person or group that feels left out? What are you doing to make sure that each member feel they are important? Are you providing the educational programs your members want? Are they having FUN?

Nominating Committees...It is not too early to start your work on next year's slate of candidates. Now is the time to identify members who have the talent and the desire to join in the leadership of your squadrons. Remember, a rich source of leaders is in your new member base. Ask your new members to join the squadron leadership.

Come to Clifty Falls and welcome your new District Commander, Bill McDonald and his wife, Toni.

Fran and I look forward to seeing all of our D/24 friends at the Falls.  
All the best, *D/C Jack E. Banister, AP*

***SPECIAL NOTICE — CALL TO THE MEETING***

In accordance with District 24 By-Laws Article 5; Section 5.4;5.4.2 and Section 5.5 this shall serve as the official notice that the **District 24 Spring Council and Spring Conference** meeting will be held at the Clifty Falls Inn, Madison, Indiana on Saturday, 18 March 2006 at 0930 and 0945 respectively.

*D/Lt/C Keith L. Williams, SN*

**REMINDER** — **Squadron Commanders must send their list of delegates to the District Treasurer.**

### **Proposed Slate 2006 -2007 Watch Year**

The Nominating Committee has spoken with all candidates in regard to the responsibilities involved in the various offices. All have been selected based on their previous experience, their attendance at meetings and functions, and their enthusiastic willingness to serve the District, as outlined in the USPS operations manual.

We hereby present the following list of nominees for election to the indicated offices and committees of District 24 in accordance with the provisions and Bylaws of the District and of USPS. The election to be held at the District Spring Conference in Madison, Indiana on 17 – 18 March 2006.

#### **District 24 Bridge**

Commander	D/Lt/C William J. McDonald, AP	Hoosier
Executive Officer	D/Lt/C Richard E. Mahrenholz, JN	Evansville Bend
Educational Officer	D/Lt/C Thomas R. Larimer, SN	Dayton
Administrative Officer	D/Lt/C Keith L. Williams, SN	Wabash Valley
Secretary	D/Lt/C Joe Venhoff, AP	Louisville
Treasurer	P/C Donald Ray Cloyd, P	Bluegrass
Assistant Educational Officer	D/1st/Lt/C Tom Woods II, JN	Bluegrass

#### **General Elected Committees**

##### **Nominating Committee**

One Year	P/D/C Edward S. Koch, AP	Anderson
One Year	P/D/C Robert H. Alexander, SN	Cincinnati
Two Years	P/D/C David R. Hufnagle, JN	Dayton
Two Years	P/D/C Damon C. Davis, AP	Hoosier
Three Years	P/D/C Jack E. Banister, AP	Louisville
Three Years	P/Stf/C Sam W. Richey, SN	Evansville Bend

##### **Rules Committee**

One Year	P/D/C Volney W. Ferguson III, JN	Bluegrass
Two Years	P/C Charlie M. Earhart, P	Anderson
Three Years	Cdr. Thomas E. Davidson, S	Dayton

##### **Auditing Committee**

One Year	P/C Merrill L. Bonebrake, P	Wabash Valley
Two Years	P/C Gwen A. Comer, P	Hoosier
Three Years	P/C Sandy W. Mahrenholz, S	Evansville Bend

##### **Planning Committee**

One Year	P/D/C Edwards S. Koch, AP	Anderson
One Year	P/C Margaret Lillis, P	Cincinnati
Two Years	P/C Donald M. Moon, P	Wabash Valley
Two Years	P/D/C Damon C. Davis, AP	Hoosier
Three Years	P/D/C Jack E. Banister, AP	Louisville
Three Years	Lt/C Robert A. Lampi, AP	Hoosier

Respectfully Submitted,

##### **D-24 Nominating Committee**

P/D/C Janice E. Elwood, Chair; P/D/C Edward S. Koch  
P/C Elmer E. Blankenship, P/D/C David R. Hufnagle  
P/D/C Robert H. Alexander, P/D/C Damon C. Davis

**THE DISTRICT CHANGE OF WATCH** is just around the corner. Please join all your district friends at the Spring Council and Conference 17 and 18 March 2006. The event will be held at the Clifty Falls State Park, Clifty Inn just outside of Madison, Indiana. This District meeting is always one of our more enjoyable events. In addition to the standard meeting we conduct the District COW where we install the new District Commander along with his bridge. This year's event is being held at the Clifty Inn, a wonderful Indiana State Park which was recently remodeled and expanded. This beautiful setting in the woods, offers an indoor swimming pool ideal for your children along with many amenities. **Friday night** you are invited to participate in an old fashion Checkers tournament with prizes and awards. **Saturday** the spouse activity will include a tour of the Lanier mansion and a lunch in a quaint and charming restaurant in the unique town of Madison which sits on the Ohio River. Our **Saturday night banquet** will feature entertainment by a trio playing, among other instruments, a Dulcimer. Please join us for "*A Weekend In The Country*".

**Reservations: Clifty Falls Inn, Clifty Falls State Park; Madison, IN, 47250**  
**1-812-265-4135 or 1-877-925-4389. Fax: 812-273-5720.**

**Email: [cliftyinsales@dnr.state.in.us](mailto:cliftyinsales@dnr.state.in.us)**

**Website: [www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/properties/inn\\_clifty.html](http://www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/properties/inn_clifty.html)**

**Our Reservation Group Code is 0317DC. Reservation deadline: 1 March**

### **Spring Conference Agenda — District 24 — 17-18 March 2006**

Hosted by: Hoosier Sail and Power Squadron

*Tentative Schedule (subject to change-please see registration packet)*

<b>Friday</b>	1500-1900	Registration
	1600-2000	Hospitality
	2000-2230	Party – A Checkers Tournament
<b>Saturday</b>	0800-1000	Registration
	0730-0900	Commander/SEO Breakfast Meeting
	0930	District Council
	0945	District Conference
	1000	Chief's Message
	1200	Lunch
	1330	Conference reconvenes
	1500	Conference conclusion
	1500-1800	Hospitality room open
	1800	Banquet reception and entertainment
	1900-2200	Banquet
2200-2300	Hospitality room open	
<b>SATURDAY SPOUSE ACTIVITY</b>		
	1100	Meet in Lobby
	1115	Lunch
	1230	Tour of Lanier House
	1400	Return to Clifty Falls Inn
<b>Sunday</b>	0830	District Bridge Meeting

**DISTRICT 24 UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRON  
 SPRING CONFERENCE REGISTRATION  
 17—18 March 2006  
 (Delegates must register with this form)**

RANK: \_\_\_\_\_ NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE \_\_\_\_\_

RANK: \_\_\_\_\_ NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

SQUADRON \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE/GUEST: \_\_\_\_\_

**CONFERENCE FEES: Please complete and mail this form.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **DESIGNATED DELEGATE** (\$58 fee paid by D/24 or local Squadron)

	<u>Luncheon</u> \$22	<u>Banquet</u> \$36	<u>Total</u> \$58
_____ MEMBER	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
_____ NON-MEMBER (spouse/guest luncheon)	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT FOR CONFERENCE REGISTRATION: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*Commanders' Breakfast \$7.95 Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

\*SEO Breakfast \$7.95 Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

\* Breakfast payments (+ tax) will be paid to the restaurant at the conference

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:**

MAIL CHECK AND REGISTRATION FORM TO:

**D/24 SPRING CONFERENCE**

P/R/C Robert Brand, SN  
 11444 Pendleton Pike  
 Indianapolis, Indiana 46236-2996  
 Home: 317-823-0175  
 rbrand@mibor.net

**PLEASE MAIL REGISTRATION BY: 20 February 2006**

**UNIFORM OF THE DAY**

**FRIDAY EVENING:** CASUAL ATTIRE

**SATURDAY CONFERENCE:** UNIFORM "F", BLAZER OR SUITABLE ATTIRE

**SATURDAY BANQUET:** UNIFORM "A" WITH BOW TIE (CROSS-OVER TIE FOR WOMEN) OR SUITABLE DINNER ATTIRE