



UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®  
SAIL AND POWER BOATING

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10 January, 2012

Dear Mr. Carlin R. Hertz:

Enclosed in this package are documents and items to close out Grant 1102.07, *United States Power Squadrons Partnering for Safe Boating*. The United States Power Squadrons is pleased to have conducted and concluded this grant project successfully.

The documents contained in this close-out package are listed below:

- Abstract
- Executive Summary
- SF 425

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Catherine Berube". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary Catherine Berube  
Executive Director



## United States Power Squadrons Grant Report

United States Coast Guard  
Non-Profit Boating Safety Program  
Agreement No. 1102.07  
1/10/2012

### **United States Power Squadrons Partnering for Safe Boating**

#### **Abstract**

The United States Power Squadrons (USPS) set out to be a unifying organization, promoting boating safety through partnership with other boating organizations under the *United States Power Squadrons Partnering for Safe Boating* grant from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, administered by the U.S. Coast Guard. The organization's longstanding commitment to boating safety through education with close to 100 years of collective experience proved invaluable in positioning USPS as a partner in on-going initiatives and expansion in advanced boater education and skills training such as on-the-water training.

USPS brought two key elements in forming partnerships: 1) a large membership base with presence on a local, regional, and national level consisting of more than 40,000 active members; 2) a comprehensive and wide reaching catalogue of boating interest topics and educational courses bringing value to boaters. On the other hand, other boating organizations brought different and equally strong capabilities. Together, USPS and partner organizations brought complimentary skills and expertise that were combined and leveraged to help improve recreational boating safety.

As a result of current and new partnerships, each partnering initiative brought USPS' particular expertise and market access to minimize duplication of efforts:

- New courses were developed with Marine Max, a large boat dealer chain. USPS provided instructors and curriculum, while Marine Max provided the boat and facilities for USPS' newly developed *Practical On-the-Water Training* seminar.
- New and ongoing alliances were cultivated to provide and improve programs for paddle boat handling and close-quarters boat handling as well as other initiatives.
- Ongoing partnerships were maintained to communicate current activities and events and keep informed on opportunities to expand boating safety.

By partnering together in the boating safety community, USPS helped boost its goals of educating boaters in the effort to reduce accidents, injuries, and help save lives.



## United States Power Squadrons Grant Report

United States Coast Guard  
Non-Profit Boating Safety Program  
Agreement No. 1102.07  
1/10/2012

### **United States Power Squadrons Partnering for Safe Boating Executive Summary**

This update report includes a summary of progress for the *United States Power Squadrons Partnering for Safe Boating* grant project as of September 30, 2011, produced under a grant from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, administered by the U.S. Coast Guard. The grant has been highly successful to date in three major areas seeking partnerships to help create new educational programs, form new boating safety alliances and cultivate stronger ties with existing partners. The United States Power Squadrons (USPS) has utilized its position in the national boating safety community to further initiatives that support a boating safety culture among recreational boaters that also includes communicating with partners and a position paper in support of mandatory life jacket laws. As a result of ongoing partnership efforts, USPS has continued to work with other organizations in finding new ways to accessibly and effectively educate boaters to prevent accidents, injuries and deaths.

#### **Educational Programs**

USPS experienced great progress in partnering efforts to help create new educational programs and strengthen existing ones. In each case, the common goal is to cultivate a recreational boating safety culture. The following partnership activities highlight some major educational opportunities:

- Marine Max – A new and used boat dealer chain and largest Sea Ray dealer in the world agreed to partner with USPS to teach the newly developed *Practical On-the-Water Training* seminar. USPS provided the instructors and seminar curriculum while Marine Max provided the boat and dock facilities. The first trial seminar series began in November 2011 in Clearwater, Florida, with monthly pilot training events thereafter. Plans for more training seminars at other Marine Max dealerships are being discussed.
- U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary (USCGAUX) – Partnering efforts between USCGAUX, USPS, American Canoe Association (ACA) and National Safe Boating Council (NSBC) continues to be ongoing. The partners convened on their first teleconference in July 2011 to discuss partnering efforts and plans to review paddle boat handling programs such as USPS' Paddle Smart program and ACA's skills courses. The goal of partnering efforts is to seek ways to work together to provide better paddle boat handling education.
- National Safe Boating Council – USPS has been in constant communication with representatives of NSBC regarding a partnership with the NSBC's Close-Quarters

Boat Control Course. Both organizations have focused efforts on safe boat handling education and combining resources to maximize the effort and quality.

### **New Alliances**

As an organization, USPS recognizes the importance of creating new partnerships that can strengthen participating organizations in providing better boating education. USPS sought and worked on new alliances with organizations such as Pacific Inter-Club Yacht Association (PICYA) and the Maritime Institute. Other new alliances were sought with US Sailing and International Association of Marine Investigators (IAMI).

### **Strengthening Ties**

It is important to USPS to maintain existing partnerships and to strengthen those ties. As such, USPS has maintained ongoing contact with partner organizations in the following ways:

- Communicated with the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) board members and staff on a frequent (at least monthly) basis.
- Continually maintained contact with NSBC representatives seeking further partnering ventures in the areas of boating education and curriculum.
- Communicated with a variety of organizations on the state and local level.

### **Life Jacket Laws**

USPS has used its position as a partner in the boating safety community to speak publicly about issues that concern the community such as mandatory life jacket laws. USPS drafted a position paper in support of mandatory life jacket wear and continues to speak out on this topic at all opportunities in public forum.

### **Results**

USPS leverages its national membership organization to promote a boating safety culture. Both nationally and on a local level, districts and squadrons continue to work together within the organization to teach boating safety. By partnering both internally and with outside organizations, boating safety outreach opportunities continue to increase. These partnership efforts together help bring boating safety to the forefront of recreational boaters' minds and reinforces goals to continually reduce and prevent accidents, injuries and deaths.