

The Porthole

November 2014



The newsletter of the Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron
a unit of United States Power Squadrons
www.aaspsq.org

Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron Chartered 1965 as a unit of United States Power Squadrons (USPS)

General Meetings are usually held each month, Sept. thru June

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Boating Education

49 YEARS SERVING
THE BOATING PUBLIC



Thank you Shih-Chieh Yin
for your design of front page
of the Porthole

Volunteers are welcome and needed for the following opportunities:

Photographer needed to take pictures at our meetings and e-mail them to our Porthole publisher.

Porthole Staff - Articles, printing and mailing copies, e-mail list and distribution.

Education Staff - Ch. Marine Electronics, Ch. Instructor Development, Ch. Engine Maintenance, Ch. Teaching Aids, Ch. of various seminars.

Misc. Staff - Ch. Member Involvement, Ch. Operations Training. Advertising Staff for public courses and programs.

The Porthole is published ten times a year, September through June, by the Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron.

The articles and opinions expressed therein do not necessarily reflect USPS or AASPS policy.

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We thank Bradley and George Schwartz and Freddy Ohou for help with computer consulting.





Sail and Power Boating Education

www.aaspsq.org

Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron
6 P.M. Monday Nov. 17, 2014
Carlyle Grill
3660 Jackson Rd.
Lat. 42° 17.1' N, Long. 83° 48.2' W

6 pm: We will meet at the Carlyle Grill, 3660 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor. West of the Lighthouse Car Wash. Order from the menu. Please call Sharon Pinsak for reservations. 734-973-0441. Visit Carlyle Grill website to see their menu. <http://www.carlylegrill.com/>



Randy Tisch and his wife, Rebecca



Carlyle Grill



Randy's boat, *Argo*

Program: Randy Tisch

"The Captain's Log, Florida

to New Zealand" Randy

will describes his cruise

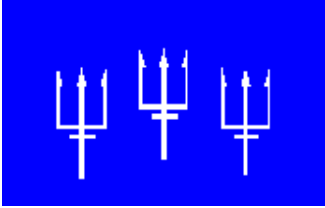
from Florida to New Zealand.

Randy will tell us about his

Panama Canal transit at night,

take us across the far Pacific through a force 10 gale as we hear about life at sea. You will visit tropical islands, quaint villages and watch the sunset over the Pacific.

See tischtravels.com for a preview.



Commander's Message

Cdr. Robert Buchanan, P



Our AASPS meeting on Monday, November 17th promises to be an exciting adventure, a glorious tale of the high seas. Have you ever dreamed of transiting the Panama Canal, then crossing the South Pacific in command of your own private yacht? Do places like Bora Bora, Tonga, Tahiti, Samoa stir your imagination with the music of Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Tales of the South Pacific* dancing in your head?

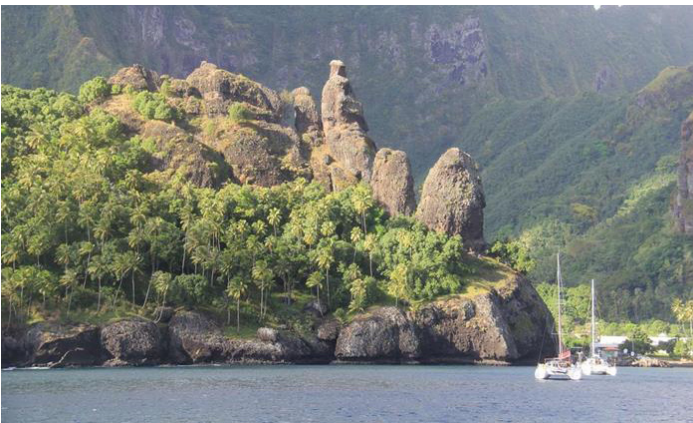
Robert R. (Randy) Tisch did exactly this; he will be our speaker as he describes *The Captain's Log*, Florida to New Zealand. Randy will tell us about his Panama Canal transit at night, take us across the far Pacific through a Force 10 Gale as we hear about life at sea. You will visit tropical islands, quaint villages, watch the sunset over the Pacific.

The adventure started when Randy commissioned the construction and took delivery of *Argo*, back in January of 2013, a 69' Nordhaven yacht. *Argo* has a range of 3,000 nautical miles, is powered by a 465 hp John Deere marine diesel engine. Although he had one mechanic/crew member, Randy was the captain along with his wife, Dr. Rebecca Tisch. They were joined for part of the Pacific passage by Curtis and Melanie Hoff, members of our squadron.

This meeting will make your dreams become real. The business meeting will be abbreviated to provide more time for *The Captain's Log* and discussion of a marvelous voyage.

Our October meeting was a working session. Following good work, the 2015 AASPS Bridge was elected. Our squadron is fortunate to have Lt/Cdr Ronald Schwartz, SN accept the office of squadron commander at the January 2015 Change of Watch meeting. Ron has a depth of experience in USPS management, has directed the educational program for several years.

The Secretary's Comments has a short summary of the recent District 9 Conference in Bay City. The Spring Conference will return to Shanty Creek the end of April, 2015.



Pictures from Randy Tisch's cruise



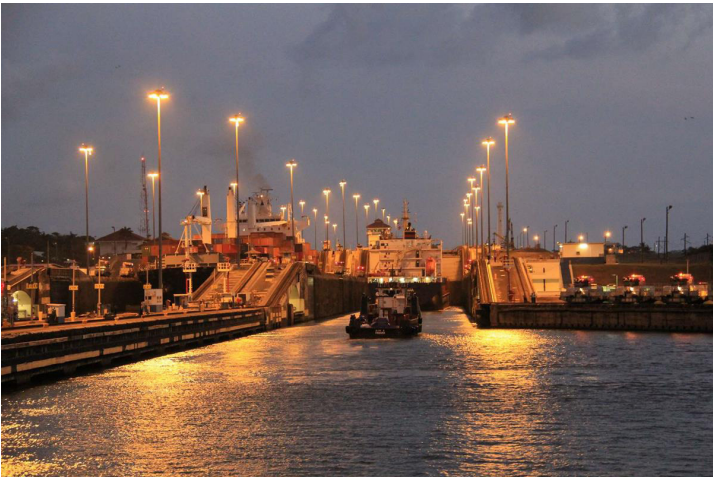
Secretary's Message

Lt/C Jeannine Buchanan



Commander Bob and I attended the Fall District 9 Conference in Bay City, a lively event with a wide variety of hospitality suites. A few observations are that our squadron may seem small but our stability and educational programs compares well to other squadrons in D9. The national administrative officer talked about a shift in Power Squadron focus from boating safety to boating education. We can expect a continued shift toward online educational programs. Educational materials will gradually be computer based rather than provided in print versions. This means that educational materials will be electronically downloaded. Most of us learned from the printed page but younger folks are more accustomed to electronic versions.

Our squadron Christmas Party will be December 14th at our house. We will follow our tradition of everyone bringing their favorite dish with the squadron providing the main dish. Our social coordinator, Sharon Pinsak, will again suggest a variety of dishes.



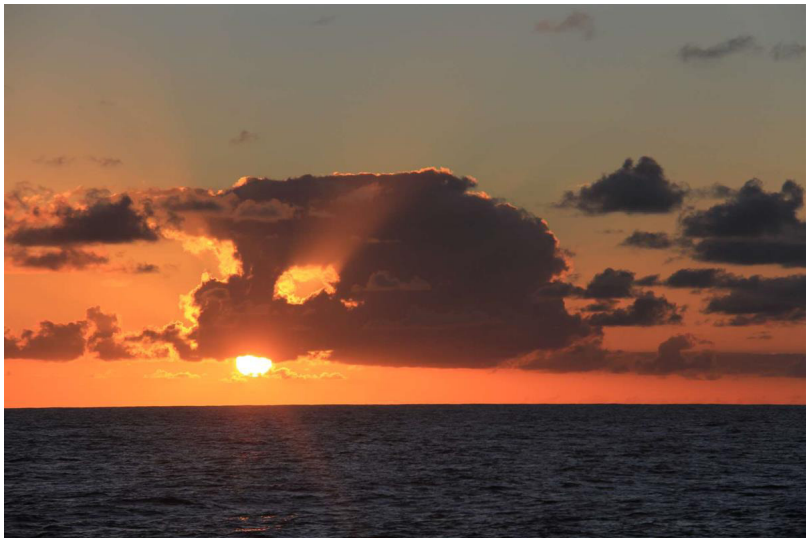
Panama Canal



Typical South Pacific scene



Argo in Panama Canal



South Pacific sunset

October meeting attendees



Ron and Shirley Schwartz



Frank Hoy and Art Pinsak



Bob and Jeannine Buchanan, Peter Hinman
and Karen Snyder



John, John Jr. and Marlene Barr



Education Officer's Message

Lt/C Ron Schwartz, SN, Life



JN class started Tuesday Oct. 14. This course teaches celestial navigation -- determining your position from sextant sights on the sun. We have 6 students. Several class members and chairman Art Pinsak and I went to Sterling State Park on Lake Erie to take sun sights Oct. 25. It was cold, cloudy and windy, but we got some sights. The class is meeting Tuesday evenings at St. Joe's Hospital Womens Health Center 2nd floor classrooms.

On-Line seminars are now available -- developed by USPS and Boat US. Three online seminars now available - Weather for Boaters, Partner in Command and Boating on Rivers, Locks and Lakes. <http://www.usps.org/national/eddept/promos/quimby-ad-finals.jpg> or <http://www.boatus.org/course-preview/pic/index.html>

We have a variety of **2 hour seminars** to choose from with no exams, just pure pleasure. We will offer some of these if we have students interested. See <http://www.usps.org/national/eddept/seminars/main.htm>

Giant squid attacked Greenpeace submarine near Alaska. See it at <https://vine.co/GreenpeaceUSA>

Please send me (aapsclasses@aol.com) a list of the USPS courses and seminars that you want to study during the next 5 years, so we can plan and advertise these and attract more students.

Please look at the variety of boating topics we offer at United States Power Squadron's website, www.usps.org If you have a desire to enhance and share your knowledge in any boating subject, please let me know. We can probably get others to share the teaching responsibilities. It's fun to teach and learn.

USPS Basic Boating Classes can be found at toll free 1-888-367-8777 (1-888-FOR-USPS) Or go to www.usps.org

USPS offers On-the-water training, and certifications for Inland and Coastal Navigation. Go to www.usps.org/national/eddept/boc/main.htm#news If you are interested in this, please call me 734-769-3476.

Environmental Branch US Army Core of Engineers - Detroit District <http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/>

Great Lakes water levels: <http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/Missions/GreatLakesInformation/GreatLakesWaterLevels.aspx>

Put NOAA charts into your Garmin GPS

<http://www.gpsfiledepot.com/tutorials/creating-raster-noaa-charts-for-garmin-gps-units-with-moagu/>

Web sites of ocean cruisers and other subjects of interest;

Randy Tisch's world cruise www.tischtravels.com

Blue Planet Odyssey <http://cornellsailing.com/sail-the-odyssey/blue-planet-odyssey/>

American Sailing Association <http://www.asa.com/>

American Sailing Institute <http://americansailinginstitute.org/>



Download NOAA Booklet Charts Free and treat yourself to a desktop cruise. <http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/staff/BookletChart.html> Use google earth to see pictures from the area.

There are many companies that give discounts to USPS members. To see this list go www.USPS.org and click on Index, then member benefits.

Internet sites for other Squadron activities. For quick access to any of the D-9 Squadrons, click on the Links section of our website www.aaspsq.org and select District 9 Squadrons.

D-9 websites: <http://d9-usps.org/>

Please check USPS website www.USPS.org and websites of squadrons near you for their activities that you might want to attend.

A Partial List of Events .

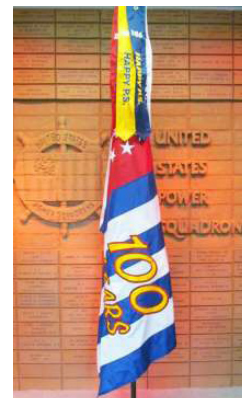
DATE	SPONSOR	EVENT AND LOCATION
Nov. 17	AASPS	General meeting. Randy Tisch - "Panama Canal and South Pacific on a Private Yacht."
Dec. 14	AASPS	Christmas party at Buchanan's house.
Jan. 19, 2015	AASPS	Change of Watch at Carlyle Grill

FOR SALE

MENS UNIFORM A, B Jacket 46 Long, Trouser 38/32, Shirt 42, Shirt 17/34
Blazer 46 Long, White Trouser 38/32, Grey Trouser 38/32, Cap 7 1/2

LADIES UNIFORM A Jacket 40 Reg, Shirt 16/32, Jacket 22, Trouser 38/27, Skirt 22

Insignia included. An opportunity to acquire necessary items for fall and winter business and social events. Contact: Art Pinsak (734) 973-0441 or apnsharon@aol.com





Executive Officer's Message

Lt/C Frank Hoy, JN



A Hoy members and friends,

We are ending another boating season as fall turns to winter. This was a very wet summer, with mild temperatures. The Great Lakes saw a huge rise in the water level, and it is still getting higher. This is explained as a very cold winter last year, which froze the Great Lakes, turning into a very wet summer this year, with mild temperatures reducing the amount of evaporation. The water level in Lake Charlevoix has risen another 3 inches since my last trip there. There's no telling where it will be in the spring. If it gets too high it causes a lot of shoreline damage from the ice during the winter. Hopefully, mother nature will see fit to spare us from too much ice damage this winter.

It's hard to imagine that it is already November. I will be leaving for Florida soon, and I hope to keep you informed of my winter boating activities.

I will return in the spring, and want to wish everyone a wonderful winter. I want to thank everyone in our squadron for all they do and have done for our squadron. This is a critical time in our squadron's history. I am sure we will exist in one form or another in the future.

I hope to meet up with Lt/C Curtis Hoff, and wife, Melanie, this winter down in Key West. Every winter there is a rendezvous of "Flemming" yacht owners in Port Charlotte, FL. They are planning on making it to this year's event.

I hope everyone has a wonderful winter and stays healthy. Take care, Happy Holidays, God Bless.



Charlotte Harbor.
skyphoto@gmail.com

By Sky Photo