

The Porthole

February 2016



United States Power Squadrons
Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the friends

Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron
A unit of United States Power Squadrons in District 9

<http://www.aaspsq.org/>

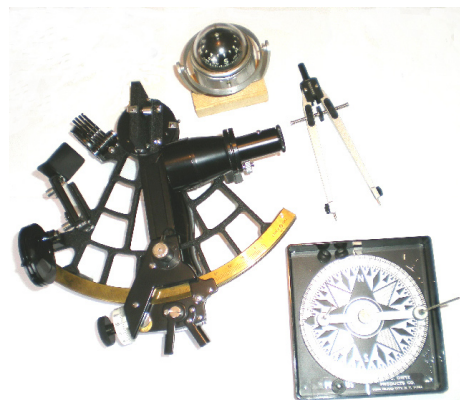
Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron

General Meetings are usually held each month, Sept. thru June
See page 3



Boating Education since 1965

51 YEARS SERVING
THE BOATING PUBLIC



Visit our web site
www.aaspsq.org/

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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 AAPSP policy. Articles may be reprinted without permission, if credit is given to the author and to the original source. The Porthole is sent in color via e-mail, or via US mail in black and white.

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





**Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron
Meeting 6 P. M. Monday 15 February 2016
Carlyle Grill 3660 Jackson Rd.
Ann Arbor Michigan 48103
Lat. 42° 17.1' N, Long. 83° 48.2' W**

Sail and Power Boating Education

www.aaspsq.org/

We will meet at the Carlyle Grill west of the Lighthouse Car Wash. Order from the menu and pay your own bill. Please call Jeannine Buchanan at 734-971-6589 or Sharon Pinsak at 734-973-0441 or Ron Schwartz at 734-769-3476 or e-mail aapsclasses@aol.com so we can have enough tables set up. Visit Carlyle Grill web site to see their menu. <http://www.carlylegrill.com/>



Speakers: John and Marlene Barr will show pictures and tell about their cruise of the Great Lakes



Pointe Au Barques Light east of Port Austin, Michigan



Turnip rock near Port Austin, Michigan



Commander's Message

Cdr. Ron Schwartz, SN



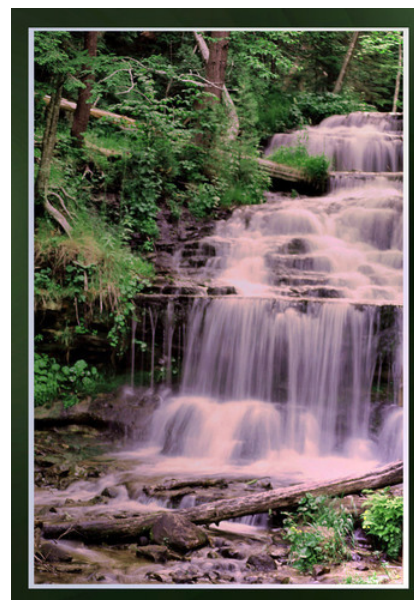
Many thanks to D/C Dawn Flynn, for braving the coldest weather of the season and bad traffic to drive from Lansing to Ann Arbor on January 18 to administer our Change of Watch. Maybe we should change our COW to mid April when the drive would more enjoyable. But USPS National has many functions tied to the January to December normal year -- the OD 2 form is one example.

'Change' was the theme of our D/C Dawn Flynn's JN, comments to us after she swore in our 2016 officers. It was a theme that surely applies to USPS, local squadrons, and the United States also. If we don't change to keep up with the rest of the world, we like the dinosaurs years ago, will die out. I've seen many things in our society 'die out' over the past 60 years. The USA used to have a huge imbalance in foreign trade that was positive for the United States. Now it is a huge negative for the USA. We used to manufacture clothing, electronics, machines, etc. and ship them out. Now we import them. Several local USPS squadrons have closed -- Warren, Grosse Isle, Irish Hills (Jackson) because they could not change. Ann Arbor squadron is limping along with about 32 members, 8 of which do most of the work and are getting too old to continue much longer. Free DNR/Sheriff basic boating courses and on-line basic boating courses by BoatU.S., BoatEd, and USPS are cutting into our teaching business. Our ABC course is more fun because we have charting along with the drudge memory part of state boating laws. We can teach the charting, navigation, weather, electronics, etc. after the students get their boat driver's license. USPS National is doing a great job in updating our course material. But we need to change something at the local squadron level -- I don't know what --- maybe the younger members can tell us -- to get more younger members involved in teaching our advanced courses.

More pictures of Michigan



Autumn Tamarac On McCormick Lake
Corwith TWP Michigan by Heather McFarland



Silence of Rushing Water. Munising
Twp., Michigan by George Sled

Laptop Cruise: If you have not already done a laptop cruise you might find it fun. You need Google Earth for pictures, OpenCPN for nautical charts, and Wikipedia for all the fun facts. My latest LTC (lap top cruise) is in our northwest. I'm reading the book 'Sailing with Vancouver' by Sam McKinney -- no pictures in the book -- and look at the local charts and Google Earth for the pictures.



Secretary's Message

P/C Bob Buchanan, P



Lt/C Jeannine, the squadron's newly elected Administrative Officer, has worked steadily to develop an excellent series of programs for our spring AASPS meetings.

February 15th – P/C John, AP and Lt/C Marlene Barr will describe a Great Lakes Odyssey. As a youngster, I remember watching those greyhounds of the lakes, Canadian Pacific's Keewatin and Assiniboia cruise silently up the St. Mary's River. Their deep steam whistles signaled their approach to the dock. Marlene and John's cruise last summer from Montreal to Chicago will be a time to relive the romance of the heyday of passenger steamers on the Great Lakes. They transited the Welland Canal, up the Detroit and St. Clair Rivers with a stop at Little Current in the North Channel, and then went on to the Soo before returning downlake to Chicago.

March 21st - Our Cdr. Ron Schwartz, SN will tell us about downloading all kinds of maps and charts electronically. Ron said that marine charts are his hobby so this will be an interesting presentation. All of us learned boating on the wonderful NOAA charts, but they are expensive so downloading may become a useful skill. Marine charts are available through commercial sources. However, I am not destroying my old NOAA charts because they may become collector's items in the future and appreciate in value. NOAA certified chart printers are listed at <http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/mcd/OnLineViewer.html> They have charts from all over the world. To see a pdf of a chart go to <http://www.charts.noaa.gov/PDFs/PDFs.shtml> A much better way to see charts is to use OpenCPN at <http://opencpn.org/>

April 18th – I will talk about Big Changes at the Panama Canal. This presentation will start with a description of the role of the Canal in medical history, then a cruise through the Canal, will conclude with a discussion of the impact of the new locks on the entire American transportation system. The Panamax or E-class ocean freighters that can transit the new locks may almost be revolutionary.

May 16th – Lt. Freddy Ohou will take us to The Ivory Coast – My Homeland. Freddy grew up in the Ivory Coast where his father was a bank executive. "Ivory Coast" suggests high adventure in a far distant land, a land that I will likely never visit but Freddy will take us there in words and pictures. Freddy's talk will be a once in lifetime opportunity to learn more about a distant part of the world.

I hope you will join us for these exciting programs as well as the good food at the Carlyle Grill. Most importantly is the good fellowship of our Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron, "The Friendly Squadron."

P/C Bob Buchanan, P
Secretary, AASPS

Pictures from our January meeting Change of Watch



D/C Dawn Flynn, JN administering the oath to Cdr. Ron Schwartz, SN



D/C Dawn Flynn, JN administering the oath to P/C Bob Buchanan, P Lt/C Jeannine Buchanan P/C John Barr, AP



P/D/C Jack Knaggs, SN D/Lt Carolyn Knaggs, P



Lt/C Jeannine Buchanan

P/C Bob Buchanan, P



P/C John Barr, AP and John Barr Jr.



Big Bay Lighthouse northwest of Marquette Michigan

Great Lakes Cruising Club on-line seminars

From Lansing Sail and Power Squadron's February newsletter.

Great Lakes Cruising Club School Webinars available to USPS members at discount.

All GLCC on-line cruising-related webinars are available to USPS members at reduced USPS registration rates. Note that there is now a NEW discount code for the coming year, so be sure to use this new discount code when signing up for a webinar. Details are available on the USPS GLCCSchool web page. Live, real time on-screen presentations with visual aids provide an opportunity for participants to interact with the instructor and each other in a virtual classroom. Sessions typically run 60-90 minutes.

If scheduling doesn't allow someone to attend a live webinar, he or she have an opportunity to view a recording of the live event on demand at a later date. In addition, selected previously broadcast webinars are periodically made available for recording-only registration.

On average webinar registration is only \$20.00, discounted to \$15.00 for current Great Lakes Cruising Club (GLCC), United States Power Squadron (USPS) and Canadian Power and Sail Squadron (CPS) members.

Tuesday, February 2, 2016 Cruising Georgian Bay's Thirty Thousand Islands

Tuesday, February 9, 2016 Wilderness Cruising Lake Superior's Isle Royale

Monday, February 29, 2016 Great Lakes Cruising in 26 Feet or Less Trailerable Boat

Monday, April 25, 2016 Successfully Living and Working Together 24X7 on a Boat

Wednesday, April 27, 2016 North Channel Ports



Executive Officer's Message

P/C Frank Hoy, JN

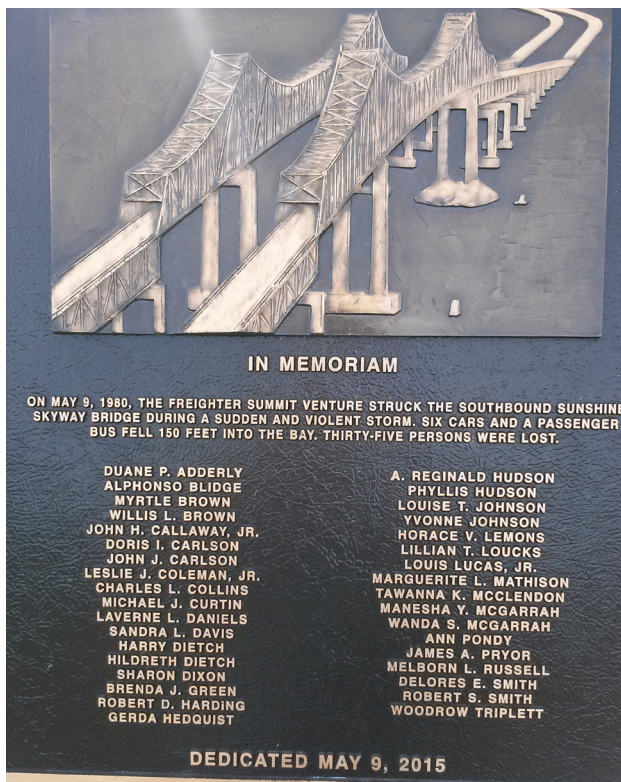


Greetings to Everyone,

There is a memorial at the northern rest area of the Sunshine Skyway bridge for the 35 people who lost their lives on May 9, 1980, when a freighter ran into the bridge. This bridge crosses the opening into Tampa Bay from the Gulf of Mexico. The freighter, Summit Venture, 606 feet in length, lost control in a sudden storm, and struck the bridge, causing a section of the southbound lanes to fall into the water. 6 cars, and a Greyhound bus went off the bridge and into the water. When the new bridge was built, they put huge concrete bumpers around the supports for the bridge to prevent a repeat of this tragedy. The bumpers have been hit by ships and proved their worth by preventing any damage to the bridge. They also changed the angle at which ships approach the bridge, and they widened the opening under the bridge for the ships. This memorial reminds us of how critical safety on the water is. Boating safety and navigation skills are essential in operating a boat. I ask you take a minute to pay your respect to those unfortunate souls that died in this tragedy.

I have also sent along a photo of a huge dredge that helps keep the canal open from Tampa Bay to the Gulf of Mexico. The bottom of Gulf of Mexico is constantly changing and needs attention all the time to ensure that the shipping channels are kept open.

Lt/C Frank Hoy, EXO AAS&PS



Dredging the bottom

A Partial List of Events

DATE	SPONSOR	EVENT AND LOCATION
Feb. 15	AASPS	General Meeting at Carlyle Grill. See page 3.
Feb. 15-21	USPS	Annual Meeting in Orlando Florida
Apr. 8-10	D9 and Detroit PS	Spring conference Double-Tree Hotel Dearborn MI

2016 Spring D9 conference

**DETROIT POWER SQUADRON
WILL BE CELEBRATING THEIR CENTENNIAL
BY HOSTING A SUPER-SUITE
AT THE 2016 SPRING CONFERENCE**



D/9 CONFERENCE
APRIL 8 – 10, 2016
DOUBLE-TREE HOTEL
DEARBORN, MI



PRIZES
FOOD
BEVERAGES
ENTERTAINMENT

BE THERE!

YOU WILL WANT TO TELL YOUR
FRIENDS

"I WAS THERE!!!!"



USPS D9 2016 Spring Conference

Hosted by Detroit Power Squadron

Theme:

Celebrating 100 Years! Cruising on the Great Lakes



Conference Registration Form

United States Power Squadrons - District 9 - Spring Conference 8 - 10 April 2016

Rank Last Name

First Name

Grade

Squadron _____ Phone () _____ E-Mail Address _____

☐ Check if a **First Timer** at a district conference

☐ No Meals, Friday hospitality registration only

Lunch **\$20.00 each**

_____ Chicken Cacciatore

_____ Special Diet Specify _____

Dinner **\$60.00 each**

Entertainment Provided by: **Midwest Dueling Pianos**

_____ Prime Rib (with Natural Jus and Creamed Horseradish)

_____ Atlantic Salmon (with Citrus Lemon Sauce)

_____ Special Diet Specify _____

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Reservations must be received by 1 Apr 2016

!! Notice !! Any reservation received after this date will be returned

Questions? Contact Mike Rachuk mike.rachuk@gmail.com 586-876-5818

Please Make Checks Payable To:
Detroit Power Squadron
Mail Check & Registration to:

Dave Dudek
35801 Schmid Dr
New Baltimore, MI 48047



DoubleTree

Detroit/Dearborn

Room Rate **\$109.00**

Includes Breakfast at Grille 39

Parking fee will be waived (validation)

Notes !

- An e-mail confirmation will be sent to the address you provided. If you don't receive a confirmation after 5 days, please contact Mike Rachuk (586-876-5818)
- The only meal tickets available after the cut-off date (1 Apr) will be unclaimed tickets or tickets turned in for resale.
- Any reservation received after the cut-off date (1 Apr) will be returned.

Hospitality Rooms Wrist Band: Wrist bands will be distributed at the registration table for security reasons during Friday night hospitality tour. Please register even if you do not want any meal tickets. Check box above for no meals if applicable.

Hospitality Rooms Reservations: All hospitality room must be reserved through District 9. Contact Mike Rachuk mike.rachuk@gmail.com 586-876-5818 Rooms at \$109.00. Each room will have bed removed, 2 tables, and 5 chairs. Additional tables or chairs come with an additional fee. Cut-Off Date **9 Mar 2016**

Rooms Reservations: Reserve on or before 16 Mar 2016 Call 313-982-3983
DoubleTree group rate reservation Link ==>>> <http://tinyurl.com/D9conference-S2016>

5801 Southfield Expressway Detroit, MI 48228 Phone 313-336-3340

Map to the Double/Tree Hotel Detroit/Dearborn

5801 Southfield Expressway Detroit, MI 48228 Phone 313-336-3340

