

The Porthole

Jan. Feb. 2017



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/>

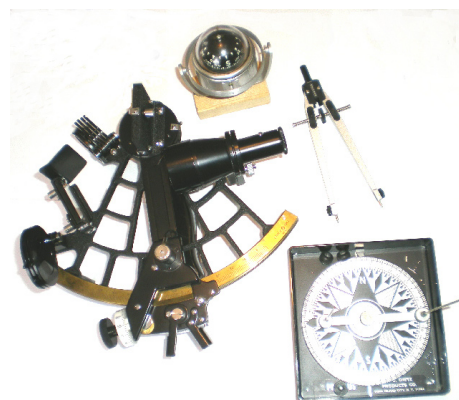
Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron

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



Boating Education since 1965

52 YEARS SERVING
THE BOATING PUBLIC



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Visit our web site
www.aaspsq.org/

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2017 Nominating Committee:



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

Volunteers are welcome and needed for the following opportunities:

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.

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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 16 Jan. 2017
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 734-971-6589, so we can have enough tables set up. Visit Carlyle Grill web site to see their menu. <http://www.carlylegrill.com/>



D/Lt/C Janet Klumpp AP



Carlyle Grill

**Change of Watch will be administered by
District D9 Executive Officer Janet Klumpp, AP**

2017 Officers;

Commander:

Treasurer:

Assistant Treasurer:

Administrative Officer:

Secretary:

Squadron Education Officer:

Asst. Squadron Education Officer:

Public Relations Officer:

Cdr. Ron Schwartz, SN

Lt/C Marlene Barr

P/C John Barr, AP

Lt/C Jeannine Buchanan

Lt/C John Barr, Jr.

P/C Art Pinsak, SN

P/C Bob Buchanan, P

P/C John Barr, AP



Commander's Message

Cdr. Ron Schwartz, SN



We thank all the officers of AASPS for their volunteer work last year. We all got merit marks. John and Marlene Barr, Bob and Jeannine Buchanan, Carolyn Knaggs, Peggy Moller, and Arthur and Sharon Pinsak and me. We are all on the officer list again this year plus a new bridge member, John Barr, Jr., as Secretary -- Welcome aboard.

Last year we saw the introduction of OpenCPN into USPS's ABC course -- a significant improvement because it brings us up-to-date free NOAA digital charts to work with, and they can be printed by anyone that has a printer. When I was in high school we drove down to the Detroit Federal Building, from Ann Arbor, and bought charts of Isle Royal for about \$2 for our camping trip there. Many of us got seasick on the *Isle Royal Queen* during the trip over Lake Superior from Copper Harbor to Rock Harbor Lodge on Isle Royal.

Notice: We are not having a February General Meeting this year because almost half of our regular attendees will be out of town.



Lt/C Marlene Barr is in the Ypsilanti Community Choir that sang at Briarwood Mall in December. Photo by Carolyn Knaggs

2016 Christmas party .

We all had a goodtime at the Buchanan's home -- thank you verymuch to Bob and Jeannine -- our marvelous hosts.



P/C John Barr, AP

Peter Hinman D/Lt/C Jan Hartesvelt, P Lt/C Marlene Barr

More Photos from our Christmas Party



Freddy Ohou and Cdr. Ron Schwartz, SN



P/C Bob Buchanan, P P/C Art Pinsak, SN



P/Lt/C Karen Snyder and Lt Peggy Moller



1st Lt Sharon Pinsak Lt/C Jeannine Buchanan



Lt/C John Barr Jr.

P/C Art Pinsak, SN



Secretary's Message P/C Bob Buchanan, P



At the January squadron meeting, John Barr, Jr. will take over as squadron secretary to prepare the meeting minutes. John, Jr. is an experienced writer and journalist so the minutes will be in capable hands. Commander Ron has previously asked that information to be included in the minutes should be e-mailed to him. This is easy, should improve accuracy, and make the secretary's job easier. The minutes are the best place to record squadron decisions that will affect management.

The Great Lakes shipping season is coming to a close because the Soo Locks close on January 15th, primarily for necessary maintenance work. However some shipping will continue that does not involve locking up to Lake Superior. In previous years, we have traveled to the St. Clair River during the first week in January to observe USCG ice breakers escorting freighters or working to keep the river open. However due to the relatively warmer temperatures, I do not expect that we will see any ice breakers at work this year. The marine traffic website shows only ice breaking activity in the lower St. Mary's River above Detour, specifically the Katmai Bay, one of the 140' bay-class cutters based at the Soo. In summary, a drive to the St. Clair River is probably not worthwhile unless conditions change.

November and December have seen heavy weather on Lake Superior with gale-force winds. This has required freighters to be "on the hook" or "to go to anchor" in several different anchorages. This activity can easily be followed on the marine traffic website. {editors note; this web site is fantastic. It has a map of the world with a symbol of each ship/boat position over several hours on the seas and navigable lakes and rivers on it, and the coordinates of your cursor and other info. It is a 'must see' web site}



Recent (several hours) ships positions shown on the www.marinetraffic.com web site

Commander Ron has talked about an important advance in lake navigation. Marine charts can be downloaded using openCPN onto a pad or smart cellphone. The GPS capability of the smart phone can impose boat location directly on a marine chart, just as is done with a chart plotter. The result is that any seaman with a smart phone now can have electronic navigation capability, a significant safety advantage to avoid weather, obstacles, etc. A working knowledge of seamanship remains important for safe boating.

Boating Education

Basic Boating Course. We have contracted with Washtenaw Community College to teach our ABC course on their campus starting March 7, 2017 at 7 PM. in the Business Education building room BE 171. A minimum of 8 students is required. See the ad in the WCC On-Line Catalog -- <https://washtenaw.augusoft.net> and click on Browse, then General Interest, then Hobbies and Exploration, then scroll down to Boating Skills and Seamanship. We also have an ad in the USPS web site where all USPS Squadron courses are advertised, at <http://www.usps.org/cgi-bin/nat/eddept/800/cfindx.cgi?C> Click on the course , enter your zip code and the distance you are willing to travel and click 'Locate'.

Cruise Planning Course. I would like to take the USPS Cruise Planning course as a way of brightening up the winter months. If you want that course also, call me at 734-769-3476. We will meet in my dining room, or yours, and take turns giving the lectures. We will meet on Sunday or Monday nights -- whichever is most convenient that week. Cost is \$45 for members for the USPS text book. Ron.

A Partial List of Events

DATE	SPONSOR	EVENT AND LOCATION
Jan. 16	AASPS	Change of Watch Meeting at Carlyle Grill 6 PM
Jan. 11-19	Detroit Boat Show	Cobo Hall

No AASPS General Meeting in February

D9 Spring Conference
24-26 March, 2017
Concorde Inn, Clinton Twp
44315 N. Gratiot Ave
Clinton Township, MI 48036
Theme: Western Hoe-down
42° 37.4' N 82° 51.9' W



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Concorde Inn

D9 Fall Conference
13-15 October, 2017
Treetops Resort -- golf and skiing
3962 Wilkinson Rd
Gaylord, MI 49735
Hotel Room \$79, Lodge Room \$129
45° 2.0' N 84° 35.4' W



These are private events open to members and guests.

Treetops Resort

Make Orlando Your Neighborhood for the Annual Meeting
LEARN Boating Skills
ENGAGE with boating friends
CONNECT with the boating community
United States Power Squadron Annual Meeting
February 22-26, 2017
Rosen Centre Hotel Orlando, Florida



Warm welcomes await you at the Rosen Centre Hotel, your home away from home. Let tours delight and entertain you, or venture out on your own to explore all that Orlando has to offer. Early bird discounts are available until 9 January 2017. Our special room prices (\$149 plus tax per night) will be honored as long as there are rooms available in our block. Avoid disappointment: Make your reservation today for your hotel room, and also register online for activities and meals. The seminars will offer new and useful opportunities to learn, network and exchange ideas that can help your squadron and our USPS organization succeed in our local neighborhoods and wherever recreational boaters can be found.

The detailed Meeting Agenda is available on the National Meetings website, and updates will be posted as they are available. There are no official functions from Sunday, 19 February through Wednesday, 22 February. CPR/First Aid for USPS Members training will be offered on Wednesday, 22 February. Thursday, 23 February, is devoted to committee meetings. You are welcome to attend and participate in all open sessions. No advance registration is required. There will be two special receptions—for first-timers and for new life members—and our annual Awards Dinner. Friday, 24 February, is devoted to department meetings, free seminars, EXPO exhibits and our teaching aid and youth poster contests. Saturday, 25 February, is the day of the official Annual Meeting, Reception and Dinner Dance. Everyone is welcome to attend. If you are authorized to vote, please be sure to pick up your voting card before this session.

Find what you need—and more—at the Ship's Store! It will be open 0900-1600 Thursday, 0900-1600 Friday, and 0745-1000 Saturday. Stop by and check out our special Uniform Ts and see what else is new! For more information go to the USPS website and look for the newsletter under the Meetings & Events website along with the agenda and hotel reservation links. The newsletter and agenda are both downloadable onto your PC or mobile device. http://www.usps.org/php/reservations_new/meetings.php?mtg_id=20