

# The Porthole

May 2018



**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/>

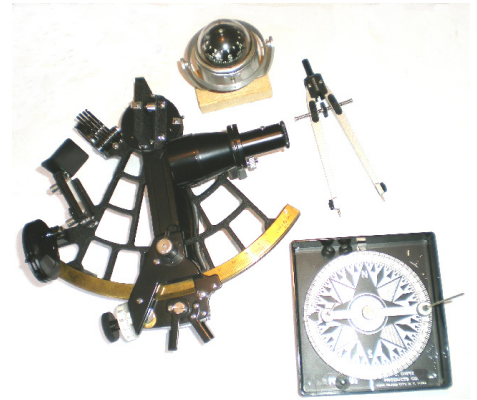
# Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron

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



Boating Education since 1965

53 YEARS SERVING  
THE BOATING PUBLIC



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Visit our web site  
[www.aaspsq.org/](http://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:

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 May 21, 2018  
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/](http://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/>



Carlyle Grill

P/C John Barr, P and L/C Marlene Barr will describe their trip around Australia.



Coral Bleaching  
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority



Beach near Melbourne, Australia





## Commander's Message

Cdr. Ron Schwartz, SN



Waterloo/Pinckney/Portage. Last summer we canoed and kayaked on Portage Creek and Halfmoon and Watson Lakes. My neighbor, who does a lot of canoeing, mentioned that those waters are part of an old portage area in the northwest corner of Washtenaw County. The Waterloo and Pinckney Recreation Areas have the name Portage on rivers, creeks, lakes and roads on both its east and west side. There is a swampy area called Portage Lake Swamp by the Waterloo Farm Museum. This swampy area along with creeks and lakes is about 24 miles long and 6 miles wide. and covers both the Waterloo and Pinckney Recreation Areas. The DeLorme *Michigan Atlas & Gazetteer* and Google Earth show this.

In Jackson County Portage Creek flows west out of the northwest side of Portage Lake Swamp, (42° 22.40' N, 84° 11.48' W) thru Little Portage Lake and Portage Lake, then the Portage River flows into the Grand River north of Jackson, about 15 miles by water from the museum. Then the Grand River flows north thru Lansing, then northwest to Grand Haven and into Lake Michigan.

On the northeast side of Portage Lake Swamp, Portage Creek in Ingham County flows from Fink Lake (42° 25.58' N, 84° 11.48' W) thru Stockbridge and feeds lakes in the Pinckney Recreation Area in Livingston and Washtenaw County, then flows into Little Portage Lake, then Portage Lake, then into the Huron River, about 20 miles by water from Fink Lake. The Huron River flows thru Dexter, Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, Belleville, Flat Rock, Rockwood and into Lake Erie.

This was probably a route used by Native Americans and French voyagers to collect beaver pelts from south and mid Michigan. There is about a 3.5 mile portage between Fink Lake and Portage Creek west. There is a 2 mile westerly portage between Fink Lake and Thornapple Creek which flows south to Portage Creek west.



Portage Creek east flowing east to the Huron River



Portage River flowing west to the Grand River



April 2018 meeting attendees



Lt/C Jeannine Buchanan

Lt/C Marlene Barr



P/C John Barr, Sr., AP



Lt/C John Barr, Jr.



Evrard Ohou

Lt/C Peggy Moller



P/C Art Pinsak, SN



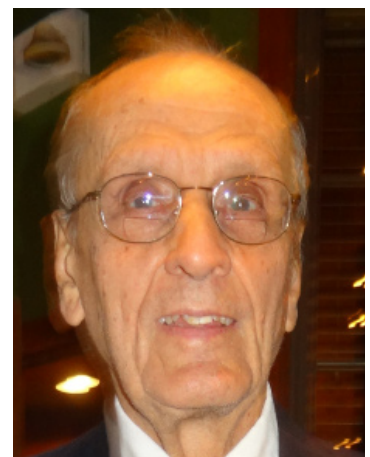
Lt Sharon Pinsak



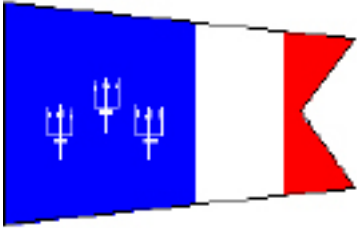
Curtis Hoff

P/C Bob Buchanan, P

Melanie Hoff



Cdr. Ron Schwartz, SN



## Ex/O Bob Buchanan, P



Spring is arriving which means 1) think about boating, 2) plan your summer days to enjoy our Great Lakes, 3) visit the Maritime Museum in Toledo. However, the transition to warmer weather has been easy.

First, as described previously in this column, the residents on Neebish Island still did not have regular ferry service as late as income tax day. Ice continued to block sections of the Lower St. Mary's River in spite of the best efforts of several USCG icebreakers working in the area. One comment was that island residents generally have 3 or 4 freezers.

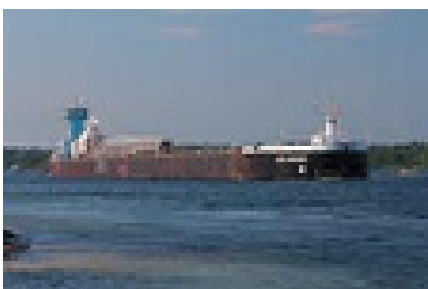
Second, 2 electric cables owned by American Transmission Company cross under the Straits of Mackinaw to bring electric power to parts of the Eastern Upper Peninsula. These cables lay west of the Bridge and are adjacent to Enbridge's Line 5. On April 1st, the 2 electric cables were fractured and leaked 600 gallons (2,270 liters) of insulation fluid containing mineral oil and benzene into the waters of the Straits. However, the leak was contained without any significant environmental damage based on water sampling.

Michigan's Attorney General Bill Shuette has concluded that the damage was probably caused by the tug-barge *Clyde S. Van Enkevort* which dragged its anchor over the cables in an area specifically marked on charts as areas not to anchor. "The vessel ignored markers in the channel and clearly identified hazards on navigational charts that make clear that an anchor should not be deployed in this area of Straits," Schuette said in a statement.

*Clyde S. Van Enkevort* formerly sailed as the *Ken Booth, Sr.* shown in 2 pictures here. The tug is semi-permanently attached to the barge. A tug has a smaller crew than a laker so reduces labor costs.

Enbridge Inc.'s twin Line 5 pipelines carry crude oil and liquefied natural gas. The company has said the pipelines were dented but that the integrity of the lines weren't compromised. Line 5 carries 23 million gallons (87 million liters) of oil daily between Superior, Wisconsin, and Sarnia, Ontario through 2 side-by-side pipes that were laid on the lake bottom in 1953.

(Writer's interpretation; the reason why the *Clyde S. Van Enkevort* lowered an anchor is unknown. Perhaps the Van Enkevort had gone to anchor due to weather conditions in the open waters of the lakes).



*Clyde S. Van Enkevort*



*Clyde S. Van Enkevort*





# Boating Education

**Basic Boating Course.** Our ABC class finished May 6.

AIS info. Go to [BoatUS.org/Courses](http://BoatUS.org/Courses) to take an on line course about Automatic Identification Systems.

## A Partial List of Events

DATE	SPONSOR	EVENT AND LOCATION
May 23	AASPS	General meeting at Carlyle Grill. John Barr Sr. and Marlene Barr will describe their Australian Trip.
June ??	AASPS	Picnic -- Will plan at our May meeting.
Oct. 5-7	D9 Conf.	Bay City