

The Porthole

March 2020



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/>

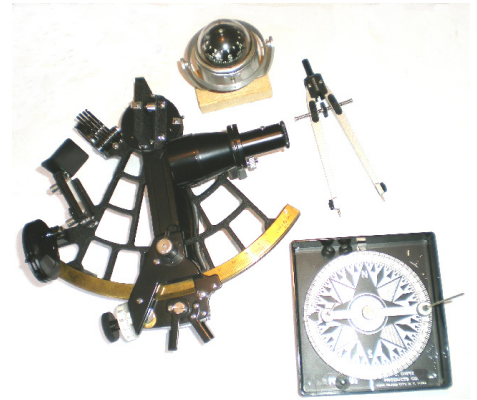
Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron

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



Boating Education since 1965

55 YEARS SERVING
THE BOATING PUBLIC



CONTACTS

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

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If you are not getting this Porthole by e-mail, in color, please send me your e-mail address. schwartzr348@aol.com

America's Boating Club is unable to provide DAN Boater travel safety benefits to members without their email address listed in the USPS database. Members can update their email address in one of two ways:

1. Go to the Information Center, www.usps.org/info and update your record.
2. Contact HQ Membership Staff by phone or email: Deliah Holloway, hollowayd@hq.usps.org, Phone 1-888- 367-8777 ext. 229 or Lynnda Stevens, , stevensl@hq.usps.org 1-888-367-8777 ext. 219.

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





Sail and Power Boating Education

www.aaspsq.org/

Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron March meeting is canceled



Ron's boat **Soft Shoal** Photo by Genavieve Cottrell

Read Michael Dixon's books about life at the flats - "Little Venice" - 1870 to 1950, north east corner of Lake St. Clair. Lavish hotels and summer homes of Detroit's elite.

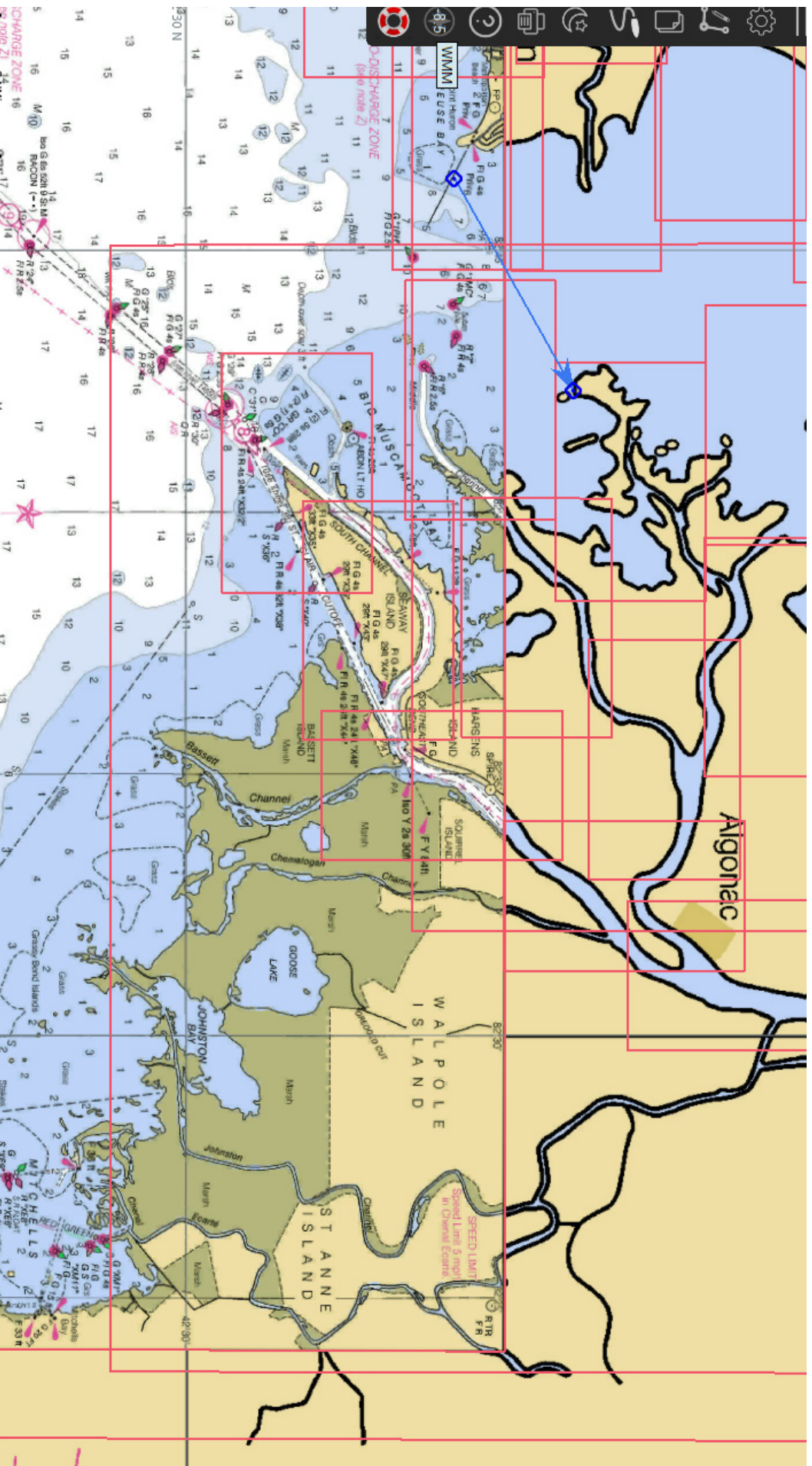


Old South Channel Range Lights, Harsens Island



Old Club on Harsens Island in Lake St Clair

Send your favorite nautical photos to aapsclasses@aol.com



The Flats. Great cruising grounds for shallow draft boats.
Chart from OpenCPN



AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

For Boaters, By Boaters™



Chief Commander

C/C Mary Paige G. Abbott, SN-IN

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March 17, 2020

COVID-19 continues to challenge us as we all desire a return to 'normal' with ourselves, our families, our communities, and our squadrons. We must, however, proceed to 'hunker down' (hurricane preparation lingo) for a while. All is not lost; there are things you can do to not just entertain yourself during this downtime, but to educate yourself. For instance, take a look at our online offerings:

- a. Courses and Seminars <https://americasboatingclub.org/learn/online-boating-education>
- b. America's Boating Channel – view all of the YouTube videos
<https://americasboatingchannel.com/>
- c. Become a Vessel Safety Examiner! Study the manual and take the exam online
<https://www.usps.org/index.php/departments/12000/12900>
- d. Member Benefits – have you looked at all of them recently? You can be saving \$\$\$
<https://www.usps.org/index.php/departments/14000/1450001/benefits-alphabetical>

UPDATES: from the Board of Directors and Executive Director:

1. Our headquarters building in Raleigh will be closed the remainder of this week. Calls and emails will be monitored. A message was sent to all district and squadron commanders today.
2. Also, with regard to squadron and district meetings, votes, changes of watch, etc.: while we do not have a formal (unbelievable, I know, given the size and scope of our Operations Manual and Bylaws) procedure for conducting business when a national emergency has occurred, the National Committee on Rules position is "...for squadrons and districts to conduct business by the best available means while preserving the safety and security of our members"; thus you may make use of electronic means.
3. The Educational Department is in the process of creating a Virtual Meeting Indoctrination seminar which will be sent to all district and squadron commanders. Target: in hands early next week!
4. Vessel Safety Examiners: The USCGAux has recommended that examiners suspend performing Vessel Safety Checks until further notice. We support that recommendation.

I wish you fair winds, calm seas, and good health.

Mary Paige Abbott
Chief Commander

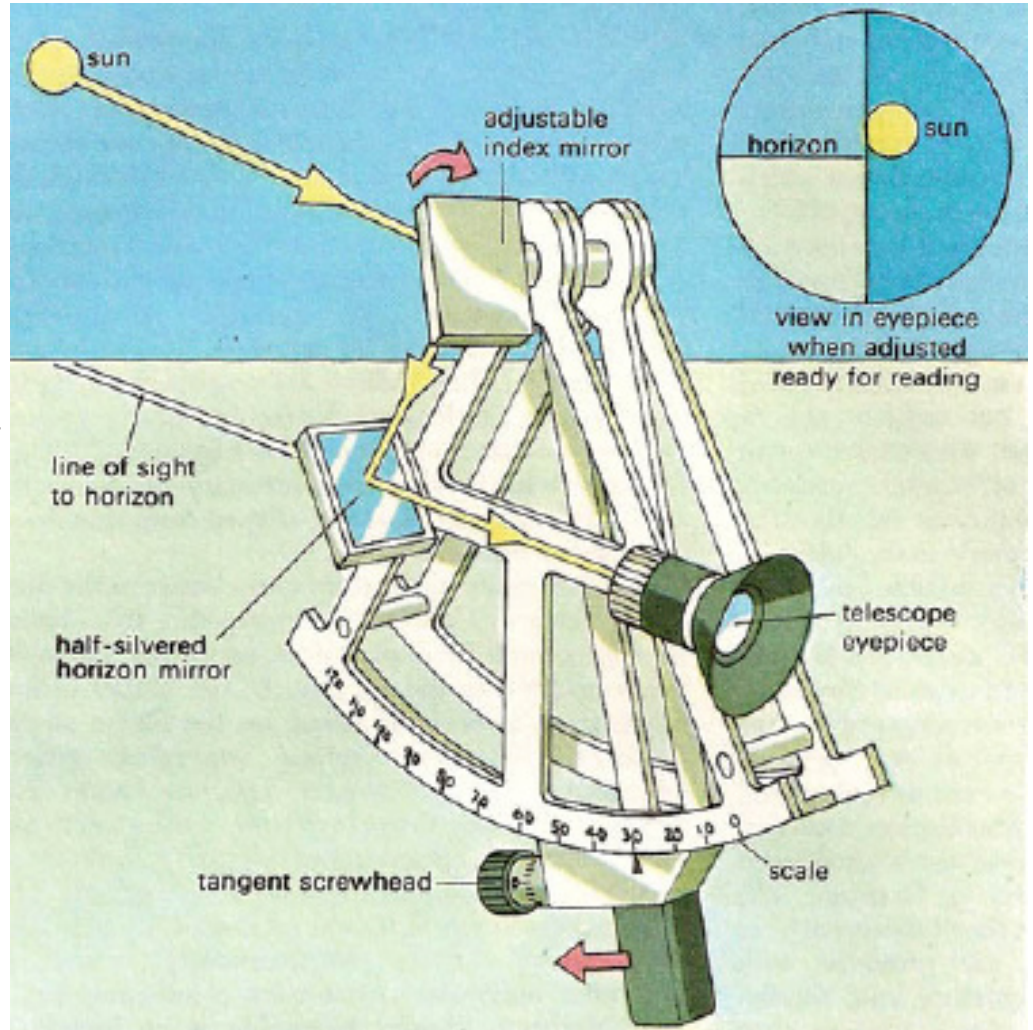
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Commander's Message

Cdr. Ron Schwartz, SN

Why join USPS ? USPS has lots of great courses that you may enjoy even though you never use them on your boat. Celestial navigation (using a sextant), is one skill you might enjoy. You take a sextant sight on the sun, moon, planet, or star and, with almanac information and a calculation, you determine a LOP (line of position), a circular line that you are on. A second sight gives you a second LOP, to determine your position. This is taught in the JN (Junior Navigation class). It is fun.



P/C David W. Mahey, P (1936 - 2020) funeral was attend by several of our members February 29. He was wearing his USPS uniform, and his Commmander's flag and AAPS Burgee were at the edge of his coffin. He was commander of AAPS in 1985, and he and his wife were on our Executive Board and chairmen of Boating Ativiies and Predicted Log contests between 1977 and about 1995. His wife, P/C Mary Ann Mahey, was commander in 1989. Our Chaplin, P/C John Barr, AP, contributed a moving eulogy to the service describing the USPS and AASPS activities, and concluding with a poem by Alfred, Lord Tennyson.

"Sunset and Evening star
And one clear call for me !
And may there be no moaning of the bar,
When I put out to sea"

Boating Education

Our ABC (America's Boating Course) is on a self study program until the coronavirus leaves.

Congratulations to our Piloting class 2 students, Larry Marentette and Diane Silas, both graduated.

Please reply to schwartzr348@aol.com and list courses and seminars you would like to take.

Courses being offered by all local Squadrons are advertised, at <http://www.usps.org/cgi-bin/nat/>

Courses and seminars available from USPS are listed below. Courses take about 16 hours - 8 weeks .
Seminars are about 2 hours long.

Seminars

Advanced Powerboat Handling AIS Electronics for Boaters Anchoring Boating on Rivers, Locks and Lakes Crossing Border Emergencies on Board Fuel and Boating Radar for Boaters (RA) Hands-On Training How to Use a Chart Hurricane Preparation for Boaters Introduction to Navigation Knots, Bends, and Hitches Man Overboard Marine Radar Mariner's Compass Seminar Mastering the Rules of the Road Paddle Smart Propane Systems on Your Boat Partner in Command Sail Trim Tides and Currents Trailering Your Boat Using GPS Using VHF and VHF/DSC Marine Radio

Advanced courses

Seamanship (S) Piloting (P) Instructor Development (ID) Advanced Piloting (AP) Cruising and Cruise Planning (C and CP) Engine Maintenance (EM) Electronic Navigation (ENCE) Marine Communication Systems (MCS) Marine Electrical Systems (MES) Sail (Sa) 2009 Junior Navigation (JN) Navigation (N) Weather (Wx) 2012

A Partial List of Events

| DATE | SPONSOR | EVENT AND LOCATION |
|------|---------|--------------------|
|------|---------|--------------------|

**All meetings are canceled until the
Coronavirus is gone.**

Merit Marks: All of our volunteers received a merit mark for 2019 ; John, Marlene, and John Jr, Barr, Larry Marentette, Peggy Moller and Ron Schwartz.