

The Porthole

February 2021



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/>

<https://www.usps.org/>

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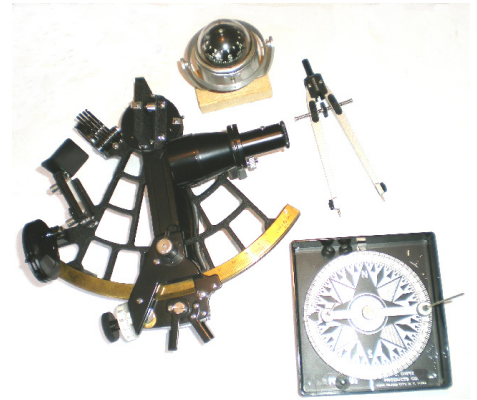
Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron

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 Phone 1-888-367-8777 ext. 219.

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





Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron Meetings are canceled

Sail and Power Boating Education

www.aaspsq.org/

National Virtual Annual Meeting (VAM) is February 15 to 26. Attend on Line.

https://www.usps.org/php/reservations_new/meetings.php?mtg_id=42

If you have ever thought about going to the National USPS meeting in Florida, but didn't go because it was too far away, now is the time to attend the virtual meeting, February 14 to 26, 2021. Attend from your own home, on your computer. It is free. If you haven't received details send me an e-mail or call me 734-769-3476. Ron.

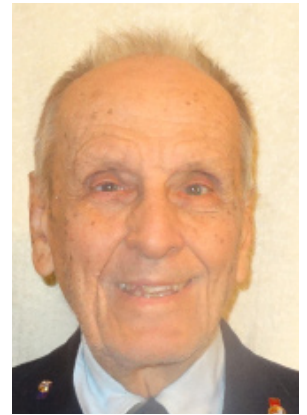
This is one of 4 photos in the Ensign photo contest. I voted for for it.



Send your favorite nautical photos to aapsclasses@aol.com



Commander's Message Cdr. Ron Schwartz, SN



Virtual Annual USPS National Meeting instructions are on web page

https://www.usps.org/php/reservations_new/meetings.php?mtg_id=42

Click on 'Attendee instructions' or other topics on the left side of the page.

The meeting is at [FreeConferenceCall.com](https://www.freeconferencecall.com) February 15 to 26.

The meeting I.D. is uspsabc or USPSABC

Trails and Maps — Friends of the Les Cheneaux Area Trails

lci-trails.org/trails-and-maps

Aldo Leopold Preserve Located on Marquette island, this trail is only accessible via watercraft. A dock allows access from Duck Bay, and the preserve contains approximately 4 miles of trails. There are two additional shoreline access points, but these contain no docking structures.

Marquette Island has three Nature Preserves: Aldo Leopold, Seiberling-Stewart, and Shepard-Hardy. Over 1,300 acres combined. Total frontage: nearly five miles on Lake Huron. The northern shore of Lake Huron was designated a "Last Great Place" by The Nature Conservancy in 1993. The preserves contain dense conifer forests. There are some footpaths and two-track roads; formal trails are being created. Access is only by boat, or over the ice in winter. Boat launches are available in Cedarville and Hessel.

Coast Pilot Now Updated Weekly ; NOAA now offers completed, updated editions of U.S. Coast Pilot volumes every week. The new (free) PDF versions, available every Tuesday, will automatically incorporate the latest corrections. Print-on-Demand copies are also available for sale by authorized printing partners. NOAA will continue to print new editions annually for customers who prefer the traditional book.

<https://nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/publications/coast-pilot/index.html>

Professional Routers: I read in the February/March 2021 issue of BoatU.S. magazine, pages 62 to 65, about professional routers. "They know when you should go". They are familiar with meteorology and world weather patterns, and advise cruisers by radio, when to make a passage from one port to another. There are several people and companies around the world providing this service on a 24/7 basis. The Covid 19 pandemic has increased their business because a cruiser approaching a port may get a call from the harbor master that the harbor just closed due to the pandemic, and they must not enter -- go elsewhere. Some of these 'routers' have been in business for many years. The Article lists several companies in the business as well as sources for weather information. Our own past commander, Bob Snider, SN, was in that 'business' for the U.S. airforce in Alaska in WWII, advising when the weather was ok for flying planes to Russia.

USPS dues have not kept up with inflation. In 1970 dues were about \$45. Now they are 2 times more, but in that same period, prices have increased by 6.7 times. (Google Inflation Calculator)).

Boating Education

Our ABC (America's Boating Course) has been approved for on-line presentation.

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/eddept/800/cfindx.cgi?C>

USPS offers some very interesting courses to our members among our many courses and seminars. Weather, AP, JN and N are fun courses even if you don't go boating. I've taken Weather three times between 1970 and 2012 because scientists are learning new things about the weather every year.

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
Feb 14-21	USPS	Annual General Meeting - Virtual meeting on the internet
April 9-11	District 9	VIRTUAL District 9 Spring Conference

