

**Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron**  
**A Unit of United States Power Squadrons**

<http://www.annarborsailandpowersquadron.org>

# Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron Chartered 1965 as a unit of United States Power Squadrons (USPS)

General Meetings are usually held on the third Monday of the month at 1800 at The New Center, 1100 N. Main Street, Ann Arbor.

**Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron  
Boating Education**



**43 YEARS SERVING  
THE BOATING PUBLIC**

## WHO TO CONTACT

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Welcome new members Lawrence Marentette, Randy and Junko Stevenson, and Shih-Chieh Yin



### Volunteers are welcome and needed for the following opportunities:

Porthole Staff - Articles, cover design, events page, printing and mailing copies, e-mail list and distribution.

Education Staff - Assistant Education Officer, Chairman Boating, Ch. Piloting, Ch. Marine Electronics, Ch. Instructor Development, Ch. Engine Maintenance, Ch. Teaching Aids, Calligraphy on certificates and wallet cards, Ch. of various seminars.

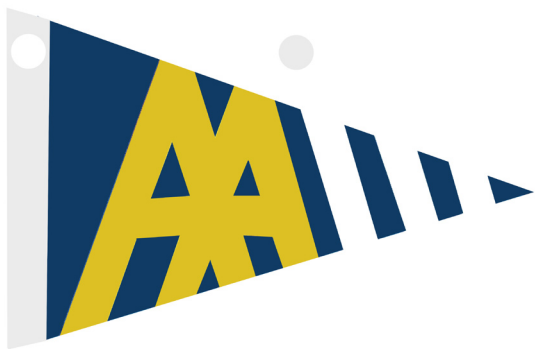
Misc. Staff - Chairman Meetings and Programs, Ch. Member Involvement, Ch. Operations Training

PRO (Public Relations Officer) Advertising Staff for public courses and programs.

The editors thank their son, Bradley, for help with computer set-up and consulting. The Porthole is sent in color via e-mail in PDF format or via US mail in black and white.

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# General Meeting Monday, 16 March 2009

at the NEW Center, 1100 North Main Street, Ann Arbor

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

**Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron  
(Sail and Power Boating Education)**

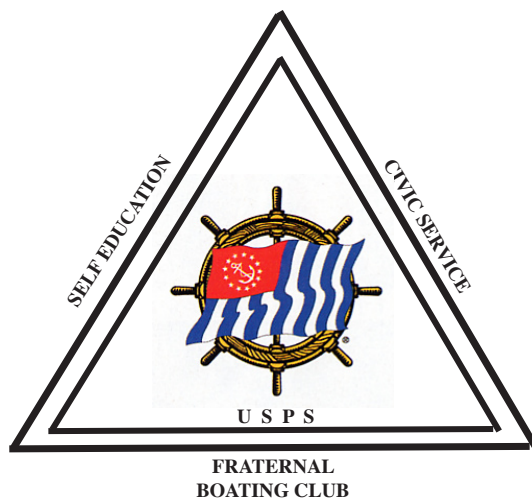
**6:00pm: Potluck Dinner - Please bring a dish to share.**

Please call Sharon Pinsak - 734-973-0441 - and tell her what food you will bring so that we have a variety.

Program : 'Cruising the California Bajaj Peninsula'. Slides and description by Marlene and John Barr. They will also describe the USPS National Annual Meeting and the D9 Spring Conference.



NEW Center at 1100 N. Main Street,  
on west shore of Argo Pond, Ann Arbor,  
first building north of the railroad crossing. - 3 -



## Commander's Message

The USPS annual meeting for 2009 was held in Anaheim, California February 17 to 21, 2009. Marlene (wife and squadron treasurer) and I attended. The main meetings were held on Friday and Saturday the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. The earlier days were mostly national and district working meetings. Meetings of squadron interest were on Friday. The meeting on Saturday consisted of reports in the morning and action items in the afternoon including the election of the new national bridge.



Commander John Barr, AP

The districts hosted hospitality rooms on Friday evening. District 9 and District Commander Brooks hosted a very nice, well attended hospitality suite. A Change of Watch dinner dance was held on Saturday evening. Dress was formal, class A with bow tie. Men wore uniforms or a suit or tux. Ladies wore fine evening wear. It was a nice event with a live band and good food. Marlene and I enjoyed the dancing and especially visiting with members of other District 9 Squadrons.

I came away from the meeting with several thoughts. The USPS is doing a great job in creating education programs for safe boating. The materials are really great and second to none. Recognizing the fact that this is all volunteer effort, the USPS and its members deserve a lot of credit.

The finances of USPS are sound, but there is a lot of room for improvement. The present bridge and officers are taking a much closer look at finances and will be cutting out unnecessary dead wood. The national Ship Store is losing money and may well be privatized. Perks and travel expenses for lower rank officers may well be a thing of the past. We in the AASPS will have to be careful and watch our funds to make sure we are able to weather this economic downturn.

Uniforms may well be phased out in the future. The Canadian Power Squadron has already done away with uniforms. This issue, as with most, has a lot of emotional baggage. Personally I favor uniforms, but I am admittedly "old school." I expect that there will be a gradual relaxation of wearing of uniforms – it has already occurred, and that there will be a move toward a polo shirt, tan slacks type of attire for squadron functions. Of course, there never was a requirement of wearing a uniform to any USPS event.

On a side note, I do have a uniform (now about 30 years old) and wore it at the national meeting Change of Watch. We took a cruise to Mexico after the national meeting. There were several formal nights on the cruise and I opted to wear my class A uniform with bow tie for the formal night cruise dinners so I did not have to bring a tux or other formal attire. The uniform was well received and I was able to promote USPS. (We visited P/Cs Dick and Katie Sullivan in Florida a while ago and they suggested taking along the "This is USPS" information brochures to hand out. I did and did.) At one of the shows on the cruise a gentleman, from the Canadian Power Squadron came up and talked to us because of seeing my uniform.

I came away from the National meeting with good thoughts and feelings about USPS and AASPS and our mission to teach safe boating. I encourage all members to step up and help us move forward to educate the public in safe boating!

## SEO Message

Congratulations to the 21 graduates of our Boating Class of January to March 2009. Robert and Sherle Bluhm, David and Sharon Brooks, Tiffani Brazelton and Charles Ellison, Jim Chambers and Shannon Ely, Frank Corl, Ron Gamble and Faye Stoner, Ben and Denyce Kerner, Joe Kimmell, Larry Marentette, Robert Reynolds, Peter Roberson, and the family of Kay and Ron Stefanski and their sons Dan and William.



Lt/C Ron Schwartz, SN (Life)

Congratulations to P/C Frank Hoy, JN, our Executive Officer, for completing the Instructor Development Course. Frank is currently in Florida checking out a cruiser that he will bring to Michigan if everything goes according to plans. Condolence to Frank for missing all this lovely March Michigan weather that will raise our great lakes water levels.

I have a copy of the new ABC-3 (Americas Boating Course, 3rd edition). It is replacing the old Squadron Boating Course. It can be used for an 8 hour course - similar to the Michigan DNR Safe Boating Course, or our full Boating Course including charting. Other squadrons are advertising the full course as an 8 to 10 week (16 to 20 hour) course. It can be purchased directly from USPS as an internet course and comes with a text book, course CD and the Maptech CD (digital charting). Students can study at home or take our classroom course, or a mix of the two if they miss a few days of our classroom course. We will be using this course for our Washtenaw Community College Boating Course.

USPS offers lots of courses, study guides, and seminars for our members and the boating public. Look at [www.USPS.org](http://www.USPS.org), and let us know which of these you want to study. We can use more teachers. Would you like take and/or teach a 2-3 hour seminar on Marine Radar/GPS, or Celestial Sight Reduction, or Weather ? We have them and many more.

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### FUTURE CLASSES

**Weather Class** - 8 Thursdays, 7 to 9 pm, Weather course covers forecasting and reading weather patterns on-board. Location 165 Kingsbrook, Ann Arbor - at Bob Snider's home. 3 to 6 students. Contact Bob Snider, 734-665-8890 [crsnider@ameritech.net](mailto:crsnider@ameritech.net)

**Seamanship Class** - 8 Wednesdays, 7 to 9 pm, starting March 18, 2009. Seamanship covers basic deck seamanship, marlinspike (knots and ropes), anchoring and rafting, basic boat care and maintenance, and nautical and USPS customs and etiquette. Location - John Barr's office, 105 Pearl St., Ypsilanti - near Huron Street. Contact John Barr, 734-483-0839 [JMBarr@BarrLawFirm.com](mailto:JMBarr@BarrLawFirm.com). Parking is available on the street or in the North Huron Parking Lot 1/2 block north of the office. Cost \$ 50.00

**Advanced Piloting Class** - Wednesdays, Advanced Piloting covers more advanced coastal navigation techniques, navigation in tides and currents, and more advanced GPS usage. Location - Art Pinsak's home, 3365 Tacoma Cir., Ann Arbor. 3 to 6 students. Contact Art Pinsak, 734-973-0441 [apnsharon@aol.com](mailto:apnsharon@aol.com).

Navigation: Starting 7:00 pm Sunday 29 March at Ron Schwartz's home. 348 Eighth St. Ann Arbor. For details e-mail questions to [AAPSClasses@aol.com](mailto:AAPSClasses@aol.com), or call me at 734-769-3476.

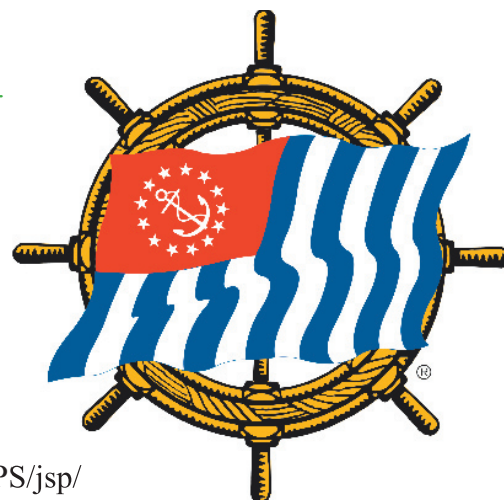
## Partial list of Events, 2009

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SPONSOR</u>	<u>EVENT AND LOCATION</u>
13-15 Mar	South Bend Squadron	- D9 Spring Conference - Marriott - South Bend, IN , see page 8.
16 March	AASPS Potluck and meeting.	6:00 pm at New Center, 1100 N. Main St. Ann Arbor. See page 3.
21 March	Detroit PS Commander's Ball	- Detroit Yacht Club
28 March	Tip of the Mitt PS	US Customs Presentation. 1:30 to 3:30 pm. See page 7.
17-19 April	Canadian PS, Western Ontario Annual General Meeting	- Sarnia
18 April	Mt Clemens Commander's Ball	- Vintage House, Fraser
16 May	Birmingham Commander's Ball	- Heathers Club, Bloomfield Hills
8-13 Sept.	USPS Governing Board	- Kansas Ciyty, MO
18-20 Sept.	CG Auxiliary Fall Conference	- Bay City
23-25 Oct	Mt Clemens	- D9 Fall Conference - Sterling Heights Michigan.

Please check USPS web site ([www.USPS.org](http://www.USPS.org)), D9 website (<http://d9-usps.org/app/HomeContact.aspx>), and web sites of squadrons near you for their activities that you might want to attend.

To locate any squadron web site go to <http://www.usps.org/newpublic2/squadrons.html>

Anchor Bay PS	<a href="http://www.usps.org/localusps/anchorbay/">http://www.usps.org/localusps/anchorbay/</a>
<b>Ann Arbor SPS</b>	<a href="http://www.annarborsailandpowersquadron.org">http://www.annarborsailandpowersquadron.org</a> .
Birmingham PS	<a href="http://www.bpsd9.org/">http://www.bpsd9.org/</a>
Dearborn PS	<a href="http://www.dearborn-squadron.org/">http://www.dearborn-squadron.org/</a>
Detroit PS	<a href="http://www.detroitpowersquadron.org/">http://www.detroitpowersquadron.org/</a>
Flint PS	<a href="http://www.usps.org/localusps/flint/">http://www.usps.org/localusps/flint/</a>
Grand Rapids	<a href="http://www.grpsmi.org/">http://www.grpsmi.org/</a>
Grosse Ile PS	<a href="http://www.usps.org/localusps/grosseile/">http://www.usps.org/localusps/grosseile/</a>
Lansing PS	<a href="http://www.lansingpowersquadron.org/">http://www.lansingpowersquadron.org/</a>
Mount Clemens PS	<a href="http://usps.org/localusps/clemens/">http://usps.org/localusps/clemens/</a>
Port Huron PS	<a href="http://mywebpages.comcast.net/phpsd9/">http://mywebpages.comcast.net/phpsd9/</a>
Saginaw Bay PS	<a href="http://www.saginawbaypowersquadron.org">www.saginawbaypowersquadron.org</a>
St. Clair Shores PS	<a href="http://www.scssps.com/">http://www.scssps.com/</a>
Wyandotte PS	<a href="http://www.wyandottepowersquadron.com/WPS/jsp/">http://www.wyandottepowersquadron.com/WPS/jsp/</a>





From :Cdr Bob D'Alcorn, P, Tip of the Mitt Sail and Power Squadron

Subject: US Customs & Border Protection Seminar

The Tip of the Mitt Sail and Power Squadron is sponsoring a seminar on the requirements needed to cross the US/ Canadian border by boat and by land. Personnel from the US Customs and Border Protection office in Sault Ste. Marie will present the requirements and answer questions in the Community Room of the Charlevoix Public Library on Saturday March 28, 2009 from 1:30 to 3:30 pm. This seminar is open to anyone, not just USPS members.

Please publicize this event to your squadron members and friends. Have them notify Cdr. Bob D'Alcorn (231) 547-6901 or [bjcharlevoix@chartermi.net](mailto:bjcharlevoix@chartermi.net) to reserve a spot so we can determine how many are coming.

US Customs and Border Protection have changed border crossing requirements, so this is your chance to make your travels trouble free.

## **PLANNED GIFTS BENEFIT USPS**

Stf/C Theodore C.. Kontos, SN

Planned Giving is a program of various financial instruments that can be adapted to the needs of each donor. When the "Gift" is properly and correctly set up, it will provide future income for the nonprofit (USPS). This "Gift" is also known as "deferred giving". "Gifts" can be made by using many types of assets. Most asset contributions are made with cash or appreciated marketable securities. Depending on the donor's particular circumstances, "Gifts" can also be made using qualified retirement account assets, real estate, insurance policies and even artwork or business interests.

A donor using planned giving techniques has a variety of benefits such as increasing current income for the donor or others. You can also reduce income and/or estate taxes, reduce or avoid capital gains taxes, pass assets on to family members at reduced tax costs and make an important gift to USPS. Think of "Planned Gifts" as leaving a legacy that benefits not only the donor and the donor's family, but also nonprofits (USPS). "Gifts" designated to the USPS Endowment Fund are invested in an account separate from other assets/ investments of USPS. R/C Michael Horowitz, JN explains how these funds are managed by the Finance Committee. "The investment philosophy is very conservative and preservation of the principal is paramount. Currently the investment mix is 75% money market instruments, such as certificates of deposit and money market funds, and 25% in mutual funds with reinvestment of dividends and capital gains. Income from the "Gifts" will be used to fund initiatives that support strategic issues facing our organization."

You may be wondering how and why you fit into this program; read one member's prospective. "Now that I (P/C/C Les Johnson, SN) am not on the National Bridge, it has been a source of great satisfaction to be able to talk with more members and be re-involved with my Squadron and District. There is one subject that frequently comes up in conversation when visiting Districts and Squadrons. Members have thought about making "Gifts" to USPS, but they are not sure how the money would be used. Some examples of past "Gifts" include \$40,000 plus to cover mentoring costs to start new squadrons, \$400,000 plus to upgrade and enlarge the headquarters building, \$3,000 plus for a defibrillator for headquarters and national meetings, and lastly a \$500,000 "Gift" was made to the Century Fund."

All of the above are a few examples of how "Planned Gifts" have helped provide the resources that are needed to best promote boating education. Did you notice that the amount of the "Gifts" vary from small to large? There are additional future projects that are needed. It is easy to ask the Planned Giving Committee for some direction for making a "Gift" you might have in mind. Remember, it is the accumulation of all "Gifts" to the USPS (big and small) that get things accomplished.

## 2009 D/9 SPRING CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

**SBSPS 50TH ANNIVERSARY – CELEBRATE THE VOYAGE**

**Friday 13 March – Sunday 15 March, 2009**

Please register below to attend the conference. Join us on our “cruise,”\*\*

in celebration of boating, and 50 years with the **UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS**

Rank	Last Name	First Name	Grade	Certificate #	Squadron
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Rank	Last Name	First Name	Grade	Certificate #	Squadron
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Address	City	State	Zip code
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Home #	Other Phone #	Email Address
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First time Conference Attendee? \_\_\_\_\_ Do you want email regarding special seminars? \_\_\_\_\_

**M  
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**Friday night:** Hospitality rooms offer hors d'oeuvres and other food (enough to satisfy).

**Saturday Breakfast:** On your own. Local info, coupons, and maps are in your registration bag.

**Saturday Lunch:** Herb Roasted Chicken, Vegetables – Chef's Choice, Tiramisu

# Attending business lunch \_\_\_\_\_ # Vegetarian lunch \_\_\_\_\_

**Dinner:** Choice: New York Strip Steak # \_\_\_\_\_ - OR - Grilled Salmon # \_\_\_\_\_

Vegetarian Dinner # \_\_\_\_\_ Special Dietary Requests # \_\_\_\_\_

	Post marked by 20 February	After 20 Feb. add \$5.00 surcharge
Total # of lunches _____	@ \$27.00 = _____	@ \$32.00 = _____

Total # of dinners _____	@ \$55.00 = _____	@ \$60.00 = _____
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Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Total Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Conference Accommodations:** South Bend Marriott 123 N. St. Joseph Street South Bend, IN 46601

**Hotel Reservations/Room Rates:**

**Call the South Bend Marriott to reserve your room: 574-234-2000 Toll free: 800-228-9290**

Refer to **U.S. Power Squadrons Block** in order to get special rate of \$99 + tax per double occupancy per night. There is an additional \$9.00 overnight parking fee.

Register online at <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/sbnin-south-bend-marriott/> and use the group code **USPUSPA** for our Spring Conference rates. Must book room(s) by 20 February.

**Meals only – Mail check and this form to:**

SBSPS  
c/o Harry Bailiff  
2401 Ottawa Drive  
Elkhart, IN 46517-1931  
Questions/ Help: (574) 293-8888

Uniform of the Day: Friday Hospitality Rooms -  
Casual or Theme-Inspired  
Seminars & Business Lunch: Uniform F; USPS Blazer;  
Appropriate Attire  
Dinner: Dress as you would for an invitation to  
“The Captain’s Table” (dressy, semi-formal)





