

The Porthole

March 2010



The official newsletter of the 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 St. Joseph Hospital's Education Center, Ann Arbor.

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



**45 YEARS SERVING
THE BOATING PUBLIC**

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**Thankyou Shih-Chieh Yin for your design of this
month's front page of the Porthole**



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. 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.

The Porthole is published ten times a year, September through June, by the Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron. The articles and opinions expressed therein do not necessarily reflect USPS or AASPS policy. Articles may be reprinted without permission, if credit is given to the author and to the original source.



General Meeting Monday, 15 March 2010

at St. Joseph's Hospital Administration Building
5305 Elliott Dr. parking Lot P,
2nd floor room EC 5 in the Education Center.

Take stairs or elevator to the 2nd. floor. Turn left and
walk about 35 paces. Then turn left thru the double
doors and walk past the rest rooms to classroom 5.

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

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

6 pm Potluck

Please bring a dish to pass and your own drinks - Please call Sharon Pinsak - 734-973-0441, and tell her what food you want to bring so we can have a variety.

Program: Curtis Hoff, our new Administrative Officer, says “ I have had some interesting experiences (surprises) in the past 4 months as a new boat owner” He will present “**Experiences of a new boat owner**”



Curtis and Melanie Hoff
and their Boat



Commander's Message

Spring is in the air and it is time to think of outfitting and commissioning. It is also time to think about the year ahead for AASPS. This morning Marlene and I were discussing rendezvous possibilities for this summer. We discussed the Hessel Antique Boat Show and other events. If you have an idea for a squadron rendezvous or a favorite place to go this summer please email me with your thoughts at jbarr@barrlawfirm.com. Thanks.



Commander John Barr, AP

Our squadron Change of Watch was a success. We had a great pot-luck dinner and Bob Buchanan gave another one of his wonderful presentations on the Great Lakes, this time of the lakes in winter. His photos of the Great Lakes icebreakers at work were inspiring.

District 9 commander Bryan Bartlett SN joined us and administered the oath of office for our new bridge. We look forward to a successful season.

District Commander Bartlett also provided an update on the new USPS class guidelines. The rules have been changed and we can now provide instruction of advanced classes to non-members.

Marlene Barr our squadron Treasurer provided an up to date report on squadron finances. We are sound and solvent.

Both our Boating course and Seamanship course will be offered this month.

Our next squadron meeting will be the third Monday in March – March 15th at St. Joseph Hospital Education wing. Put it on your calendar now.

Think Spring and boating.

John

Administrative Officer's Message

As both a new member of AASPS along with being your new Administrative Officer I have my work cut out for me. I am honored to serve the squadron and look forward to working with, and for, the membership. I am trying to quickly come up to speed on my role and responsibilities and will have more substance in the next Porthole. Please provide me any suggestions or insight you may have.



Lt/C Curtis Hoff

I am a new boat owner and have been spending a lot of time familiarizing myself with the boat and outfitting it during the past four months. These tasks are more challenging since the boat is in Florida so I commute to it every other weekend. Overall it has been an interesting process and I thought some of my experiences may be beneficial to share and potentially entertaining. Therefore at the March meeting I will present "Experiences of a new boat owner".

Curtis

SEO Message

Now that the hollidays are over and you have more time, consider treating yourself and your spouse to a boating course - perhaps our great Weather Course or Marine Electronics, or whatever tickles your curocity. Look at the USPS.org web for descriptions of all the various courses.



Lt/C Ron Schwartz, SN (Life)

At the USPS National meeting in Florida it was decided to open all of our courses, seminars, study guides, etc. to the public. The squadrons and USPS National are operating as independant businesses. We can price our courses as we like an purchase the materials from national.

Seamanship Class started March 11, 2010 with Commander John Barr teaching.

Piloting class has started with 2 students as a home study with Art Pinsak supervising.

We have 18 students in our America's Boating Class Wednesday nights in room 180 in the Business Education building of Washtenaw Community College. This is our beginner boater class. It covers types of boats, laws, required equipment, marine radios, safety, navigation, charts, digital charts, GPS.

All of our courses, seminars and study guides are now available to anyone - nonmembers and members. Members get a substantial discount in the prices. There are many courses, seminars and study guides available. Subjects range from knots, weather, to electronics to engine maintenance and celestial navigation. Look at their descriptions at www.usps.org and tell me which ones you're interested in. You can do home study or, if we have several people interested in a particular subject, we will have a class.

Education Department Volunteers are needed for Education Officer, Chairmen of Boating, Marine Electronics, Instructor Development, Engine Maintenance, Teaching Aids, Chairmen of various Learning Guides and seminars.

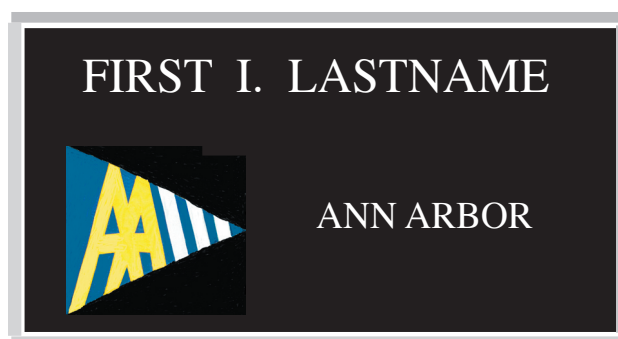
AASPS Booster Club

Thanks to the following people for their support of the Porthole: Your \$25 Donations to Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron will help our squadron carry on our boating education work. To donate, make your check payable to Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron and mail it and your boat's name to Marlene Barr, treasurer, 1200 Whittier Rd., Ypsilanti, MI, 48197.

Name	Boat Name	Date
John and Marlene Barr	VinVilla	May 2009
Bob Cox		Sept. 2009
Frank Hoy	Bobbin' Job	May 2009
Art and Sharon Pinsak	Calypso	May 2009
Ron and Shirley Schwartz	Half Angel, Whale and Soft Shoal	May 2009

AASPS MEMBERS

Name Tags



We are going to order name tags for our members. We need to order at least 10 tags to get a reduced price of \$10 each. The tags can be attached to your clothes by a magnet. No holes in your clothes. If you want one, please send a check for \$10 payable to *Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron* to Art Pinsak, 3365 Tacoma Cir., Ann Arbor, MI 48108. The tags will be black/white laminated plastic with a white beveled border, white engraved letters and the AASPS burgee, similar to the picture above.

Partial list of Events

DATE	SPONSOR	EVENT AND LOCATION
Mar. 15	AASPS	general meeting - see page 3.
March 19-21	D9 and Flint PS	Spring D9 conference. Marriott Detroit Hotel in Southfield
April 19	AASPS	general meeting
May 17	AASPS	general meeting
June 19		Detroit Parade of Lights
July 9-11		Gold Cup Hydroplane Races in Detroit River
Aug. 7		USCG Parade in Grand Haven
Oct. 22-24		D9 and D29 joint Fall Conference. Holliday Inn, Perrysburg Ohio

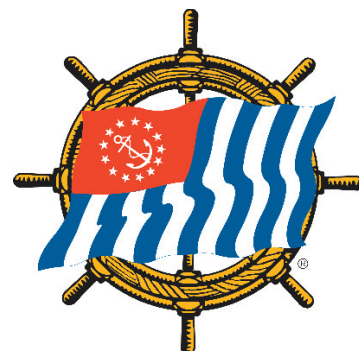


Boating is fun... we'll show you how

Please check USPS web site (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.

For quick access to any of the D-9 Squadrons click on the Links section of our website (annarborsailandpowersquadron.org) and select District 9 Squadrons. A map showing each squadron's location with a link to its website is at your disposal, or http://www.annarborsailandpowersquadron.org/district9_links.html. Or alternatively, for a list of D-9 websites visit:

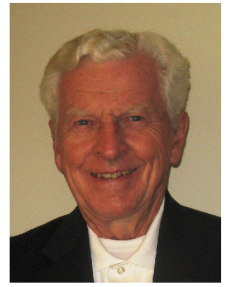
<http://www.usps.org/newpublic2/squadrons.html>



Secretaries Message

First, we must thank Shirley Schwartz for her past service as Squadron Secretary with strong support from Ron.

Squadron meeting minutes will be distributed electronically following each meeting, and will also be available at the next meeting. The minutes are important because they describe Squadron business as discussed at each meeting. For example, USPS policy changes will be included in the minutes if discussed at meetings. If you would like an electronic copy but did not receive it, please call me at (734) 971-6589. I am presently assisting SEO Ron with the ABC course in progress at WCC. After this course passes its crest, I will start reviewing the Squadron roster for any necessary updates.

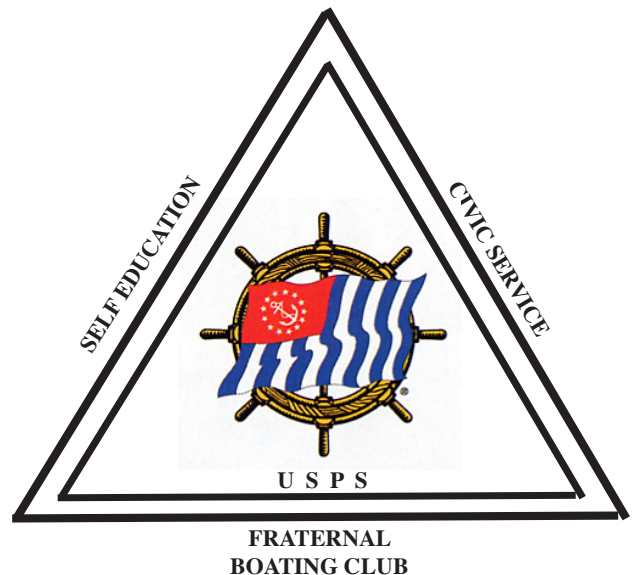


Lt/C Robert Buchanan

You should have received the March issue of Mooring Lines from the Mt. Clemons Squadron. The issue contained an excellent article on entering and returning from Canada. I believe that anyone who cruises near Canadian water should read the article. Cruising is not considered entry but anchoring in Canadian waters is an entry. The procedure for entering Canada is the same as in the past. Merely call Canadian Immigration and provide the requested information which will include vessel registration number.

Returning to the United States is the issue. Due to enhanced homeland security, each person on board, except children under age 17, must have a form I-64 or Nexus card. If available, then entry into the U.S. can be done by telephone. Failure to follow the procedures can be quite expensive. I also learned that if the vessel is 30' or more, a DTOPS decal is required. I was asked for my decal number for our 30' Catalina. When puzzled, the officer with a sense of humor said, "Captain, I believe that your boat is only 29'" I said, "yes of course, my error."

- Bob Buchanan



Membership Chairperson's Message

On Saturday, February 27th, Jack and I attended the district-9 council meeting in East Lansing. This meeting always turns out to be very informative on the workings of the district and squadrons both individually and as a whole.

D/Lt Mary Ann Jensen spoke about membership in USPS. We all know it is down but seems to be having some upswing with our new “cyber” members. These are members who have taken the boating course (often on line) and join USPS as a member without a squadron. The four squadrons nearest the member's home address are then contacted by national membership and the membership committee or chair calls to invite them to join their particular squadron. In the past six months, Ann Arbor has welcomed two of these cyber members to the squadron. I also sent one person to Dearborn squadron and one to Flint Squadron because of where they were located.

Mary Ann said that National has set a quota for new members for the coming year and they would like to see District 9 have 368 new members. It would be great if everyone started talking USPS to all their friends and people they meet. It is amazing how many of us start talking boating and we find the stranger we are talking to owns a boat and doesn't know about USPS. Ann Arbor is doing a great job of finding new members and also welcoming back previous members.

Welcome Kira Kaufmann! She is our newest member, transferring from Fort Lauderdale Florida squadron.

There was also a preview of the Treasure Chests which will be given as prizes at the Spring D-9 Conference. The two chests are filled to overflowing with all sorts of goodies included a framed print from our next District Commander, James Draper. Jim is a fine artist and has donated not only that but note cards, a Christmas ornament and another print. There are books, wine, food goodies, a towel, and a pillow. The chests will be given to the hospitality room with the best decorations and the hospitality room with the best food! Be sure to mark your calendars for March 19 -21 and attend this educational, informative, FUN event!. It will be held at the Marriott Detroit/Southfield on Northwestern Hwy. Close to home. Come for the Friday night festivities for free!! All the food and drink and friendship you want! Be sure and register ahead, particularly if you are a “first timer”.

Carolyn Knaggs



P/C Carolyn Knaggs. P

Welcome Kira Kaufmann! She is our newest member, transferring from Fort Lauderdale Florida Power Squadron.

2010 D/9 SPRING CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

JOIN THE SEVEN SEAS ADVENTURE



19 – 21 March 2010

Attention: All registration requests must be received, on this form, by 26 February 2010.

Registration requests received after 26 February will be accepted on a space available basis.

Uniforms: Seminars & Business Lunch: Uniform F (or USPS
Blazer or Appropriate Attire)

Dinner: Uniform A with Bow Tie (or Semi Formal)

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Certificate #</u>	<u>Squadron</u>	<u>First Time Attendee?</u> <u>Yes</u> <u>No</u>
(1)						
(2)						
Address:		City:		State		ZIP
Phones: (H)		(W)		E-Mail:		

MEALS - NOTE: A surcharge of \$5.00 will apply for meal reservations after 26 February 2010.

Lunch _____ @ \$19.00 = \$ _____
Choice: Chicken Salad Croissant _____ or Salmon Caesar Salad _____

Dinner _____ @ \$30.00 = \$ _____
Choice: NY Strip _____ or Tilapia (fish) _____

Special Meal/Dietary Requests: _____ Vegetarian Meal: _____

Total Amount Enclosed: _____ Check # _____

Make checks payable to: Flint Power Squadron

Mail checks and this form to:

P/C Mike Burkhardt, AP
1108 Lafayette St.
Flint, MI 48503

(Hospitality) Room Reservation

ONLY Call Jamie Parker: **248-455-2022**

jparker@marriottsouthfield.com

For Sleeping Room Reservation: 888-519-6568
Marriott Detroit SOUTHFIELD 248-356-7400
27033 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield, MI 48033

Read below: \$85.00 per room/per night

*You need to ask for the "US Power Squadron Group Rate" when calling in your reservation. \$85.00 per room

*The online group code is "UNIONIA" and needs to be entered in the GROUP code box at www.marriottsouthfield.com

