

The Porthole

October 2011



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
See page 3 for the location of this month's meeting

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Boating Education

46 YEARS SERVING
THE BOATING PUBLIC

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

Thank you 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, printing and mailing copies, e-mail list and distribution.
Education Staff - Ch. Marine Electronics, Ch. Instructor Development,
Ch. Engine Maintenance, Ch. Teaching Aids, Calligraphy on certificates and wallet cards, Ch. of various seminars.
Misc. Staff - 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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Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron General Meeting

6 pm Monday, 17 October 2011

Classic Cup Café

4389 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor

Lat. 42° 17.119' N, Long. 83° 49.006' W

Sail and Power Boating Education

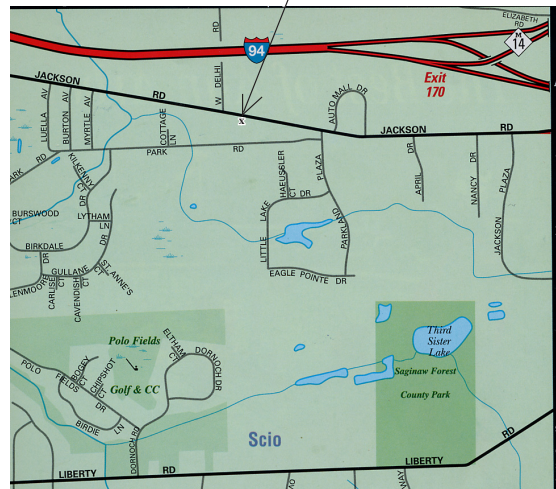
<http://www.aaspsq.org>

Public is invited

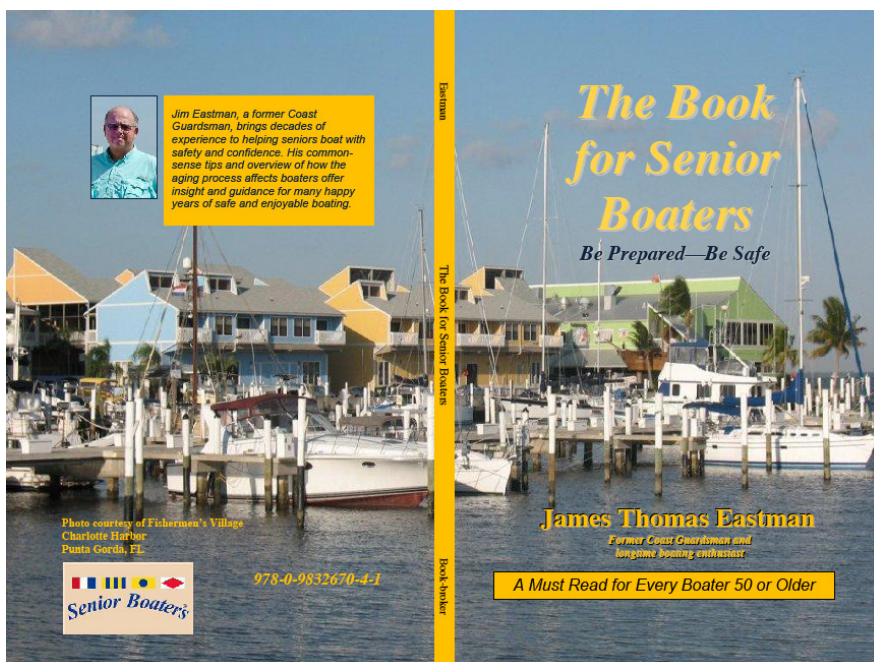
6 pm: We will meet at the Classic Cup Café, 4389 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor.
Order from the menu. On south side of Jackson Rd. west of Wagner Rd.
In the Parkland shopping mall

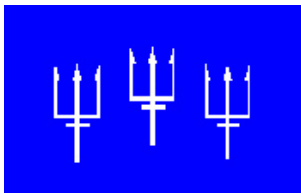


Classic Cup Café



Speaker: James Eastman
The Book for Senior Boaters





Commander's Message

Com. John Barr, AP, Life



Meeting Place: Our last membership meeting was at the Classic Cup Cafe at 4389 Jackson Road in Ann Arbor. We had a private meeting room and ordered off the menu. The experience was good and the members voted to have our next membership meeting at the same place. Look for the announcement in this Porthole and plan to attend.

Merit Marks: Merit marks are due. Please communicate to your commander your activities for the past year to be included in the Commander's recommendations.

Fall Layup: There are still a lot of nice days ahead to enjoy boating. At some point our boats must be pulled and winterized. We can choose to do the work ourselves or turn the job over to a professional. If we choose to do the work ourselves it is important to remember the rule "measure twice, cut once." In other words, go slowly and make doubly sure that the job is done right. Be especially careful that all water is drained out of the engine for fall layup.

Boat Storage: I do not have a boat to store this year. In the past stored my 24' SeaRay trailer boat at the Chelsea Fairgrounds. I like the Chelsea Fairgrounds because the boats (or cars or recreation vehicles) are stored inside, and one does not have to bother with a snow cover. My last information for a contact is John at 734-717-2805.

Snow blowers: Winter is coming and now is a good time to check your snow blower to make sure it starts right up when needed.



Opal Lake regulations



Charlie's Hobie Cat 16 on Opal Lake



Education Officer's Message

Lt/C Ron Schwartz, SN, Life



It's fun to teach and learn

The next ABC3 (America's Boating course), our basic boating class - that covers Michigan Boating Laws and a little bit of marlin spike, course plotting and digital charts - will be on 8 Tuesday evenings October 4 to November 22, 2011 at Washtenaw Community College. Call Bob Buchanan for details and enrollment. 734-971-6589.

At the Executive Board meeting on September 12, 2011 we voted to go along with USPS National's new policy of giving a 6 months free membership to graduates of the public boating course. USPS will bill these students for membership the end of the 6 months.

Advanced Piloting course. AASPS will have an Advanced Piloting Class at St. Joe's education center starting in about one month on about 12 Wednesday nights. We will skip the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. Cost is \$ 50 for USPS members, \$130 for nonmembers, + \$16 for the "Weekend Navigator" book if you don't have it. Art Pinsak and John Barr are teaching this class. You can go to <http://www.usps.org/national/eddept/ap/main.htm> to see a description of the course and download helpful information. Call or e-mail by me Oct. 12 if you want to take this course. Ron Schwartz, 734-769-3476. AAPSClasses@aol.com

We need more volunteers to serve as class chairpersons - organize, schedule, and teach a course or seminar. Please look at the variety of subjects we can choose from at National Power Squadron's web site www.USPS.org If you have a desire to enhance and share your knowledge in any boating subject, please let me know. We can probably get others share the teaching responsibilities. It's fun to teach and learn.



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

A partial list of events

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SPONSOR</u>	<u>EVENT AND LOCATION</u>
Oct. 17, 2011	AASPS	General Meeting, Dinner at Classic Cup Café, 4389 Jackson Rd.
Oct. 28 - 30	D9	D9 Fall Conference at Shanty Creek Resort. See pages 9 and 10
Mar. 23-24, 2012	Dearborn	D9 Spring conference, Double Tree Hotel in Bay City

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>



Administrative Officer's Message

Lt/C Curtis Hoff, P



Last month I raved about how much we enjoyed cruising around Rhode Island this past summer. I have now learned there is at least one downside to the area and her name is Irene. That is Hurricane Irene.

Irene passed about 50 miles to the west of my marina (putting me on the “bad” side of a hurricane). Luckily, my boat only suffered a minor ding or two from flying debris. As Irene approached, my marina contacted me and strongly encouraged hauling my boat. Unfortunately, their Travelift is not large enough, so I had to make arrangements elsewhere – not a simple task when a hurricane is approaching, since most marinas give priority to their slip owners for hurricane hauls. Fortuitously, I had recently used a marina with a large Travelift and thus had a relationship with them – but the only timeslot available was early the next morning. So a friend and I left in the late afternoon, drove all night, and arrived in just enough time to move the boat for the haul out. We then spent the rest of the day removing canvas and securing everything and anything, including duct taping all doors, hatches, windows, etc. to prevent water intrusion.



The following week I returned to the boat and found it is in very good shape overall. A few boats in the marina had damage (at least one had sunk) but otherwise most damage was minor. The big surprise was the wind force which had completely stripped away probably 50% of the duct tape. The force of Mother Nature is amazing and never can be underestimated.

Our October meeting is Monday, October 17th at the Classic Cup Cafe'. The speaker and program will be Jim Eastman, author of *The Book for Senior Boaters*. Jim is a former U.S. Coast Guardsman with over 5 decades of freshwater and saltwater boating experience.

This ground-breaking book is about the human process of aging and its effect on senior boaters' safety and enjoyment. It is a guide, handbook and an interesting read described as “eye opening, a real wake-up call, on-point and entertaining.” This book gives SENIOR BOATERS the recognition and focus they deserve within the boating community.



Executive Officer's Message

Lt/C Frank Hoy, JN, PC



Fall is rapidly approaching, and summer is fading away. I have been picking up black walnuts out of my yard, and by the looks of the size and number of this years crop, this will be a bad winter. My boat is already out of the water and in winter storage mode.

We had 14 members and guests at our September meeting. We enjoyed a rather spirited program about President Andrew Jackson, presented by Dr. Lewis Gimelli, retired History Professor from EMU. We order off the menu, and beer and wine is available.

We have some very interesting speakers lined up for our meetings in October and November. Please come out and join us for these monthly dinner meetings.

Our next ABC safe boating course starts on October 4 at WCC, and will be taught by Bob Buchanan. I plan to assist Bob where and when he needs my help. I have made plans for next spring for Vessel Safety Inspections for our squadron. We should be in a good position to do many vessel inspections.

I repeat this message once again - our squadron's survival depends on membership involvement. Please get involved, if only to come to dinner with us. Thanks to all the members in our squadron for your support.

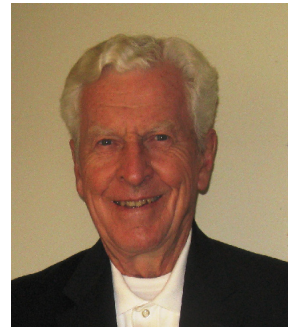


September General Meeting. Dr. Gimelli, 2nd from the left, describing President Andrew Jackson's presidency



Secretary's Message

Lt/C Robert Buchanan, P



Football, beautiful turning leaves, yellow mums mean fall, but this also means the end of the Lake St. Clair sailing season for this crew. During our sails this summer we consistently traveled too far out on the lake into Canadian waters to catch the perfect wind but then had a job on our hands to get back to the marina. On the last sail, I forgot my GPS so had to find a small channel buoy by "eye," hit it perfectly.

The fall America's Boating Course starts October 4th at Washtenaw Community College. The first 4 classes are the "academic" programs that lead to both the USPS and Michigan DNR examinations and certification on November 8th. With thanks to several squadron members, we now have a good staff of lecturers for these sessions.

The later sessions on November 8, 15th, and 22nd are devoted to charting and navigation. These are "hands-on" classes in which each student learns how to plot and navigate. Here we need additional teaching faculty who are comfortable with charting and plotting and are willing to work with individual students to help them acquire the basic skills of plotting a course. These classes require about one instructor for every 3 students. If this appeals to you, I would be appreciative if you would let me know by replying to me by e-mail to BuchananRA@msn.com . No advance preparation is necessary. These are delightful evenings even if you have not previously participated in the ABC program.

AASPS is one of the few squadrons that presents the 12 hour course. I also learned at the last D9 conference that other squadrons who teach the charting and navigation portion of the ABC course require 14 to 16 classroom hours as do we at AASPS.

AASPS Booster Club

Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron would like your support. \$25 lists your name and boat in the Porthole for one year. Please send a check to Marlene Barr, Treasurer, 1200 Whittier Road, Ypsilanti, MI 48197-2152

Name	Boat Name	Date
John and Marlene Barr		June 2012
Art and Sharon Pinsak	<i>Calypso</i>	June 2012