

The Porthole

November 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

CONTACTS

Commander: John M. Barr, AP, Life
Executive Officer: Frank Hoy, JN
Administrative Officer: Curtis Hoff, P
Education Officer: Ronald E. Schwartz, SN, Life
Secretary: Robert A. Buchanan, P
Treasurer: Marlene Barr, S
Nominating: John M. Barr, AP, Life
Assistant SEO: Bob Snider, SN, Life
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Chairman JN, Sail: Carey Jones, JN
Chairman of N: Arthur Pinsak, SN
Chaplin: Arthur Pinsak, SN
Historian: Jadwin C. Root, SN, Life
Conference Coord.: Sharon A. Pinsak
Membership Chair: Carolyn Knaggs, P
Web Designer: Peggy Moller
Webmaster: Curtis Hoff, P
Porthole Editor: Peggy Moller
Porthole Publisher and Distribution: Ron Schwartz

734-483-0839
734-214-0199
734-668-8631
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734-761-1589
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734-769-3476

Boating Education

46 YEARS SERVING
THE BOATING PUBLIC

JMBarr@BarrLawFirm.com
Hoybuoy@yahoo.com
choff@hoff.com
AAPSClasses@aol.com
BuchananRA@msn.com
mjb_120022535@hotmail.com
JMBarr@BarrLawFirm.com
crsnider@ameritech.net
BuchananRA@msn.com
JMBarr@BarrLawFirm.com
apnsharon@aol.com
apnsharon@aol.com
apnsharon@aol.com
crsnider@ameritech.net
crsnider@ameritech.net
cwjones321@att.net
apnsharon@aol.com
apnsharon@aol.com
apnsharon@aol.com
cknaggs@reinhardtrealtors.com
mmoller@umich.edu
choff@hoff.com
mmoller@umich.edu
AAPSClasses@aol.com

<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
5:45 pm Monday, Nov. 21, 2011
Classic Cup Café
4389 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor
Lat. 42° 17.119' N, Long. 83° 49.006' W**

Sail and Power Boating Education

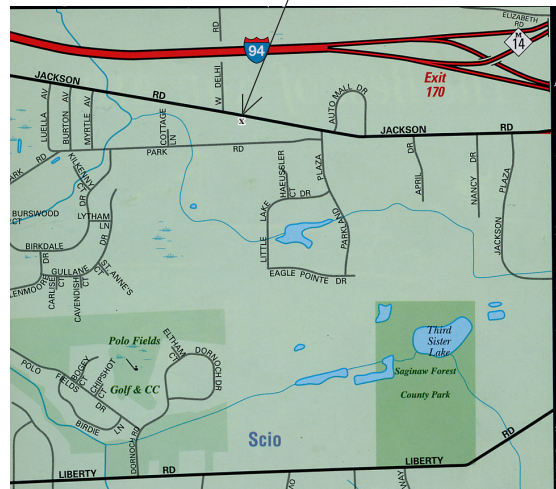
Public is invited

<http://www.aaspsq.org>

**5:45 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**

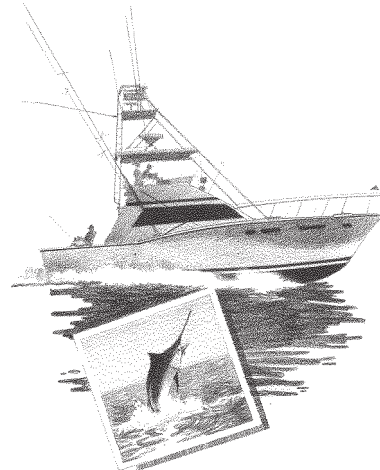


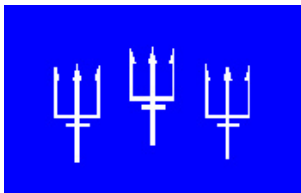
Classic Cup Café'



Speaker: Erika Jensen
Invasive Species in the Great Lakes

Erika Jensen will be speaking about Invasive Species and the Great Lakes. Erika is a Senior Program Specialist at the Great Lakes Commission, an interstate compact agency that promotes the orderly, integrated and comprehensive development, use and conservation of the water and related natural resources of the Great Lakes basin and St. Lawrence River.





Commander's Message

Com. John Barr, AP, Life



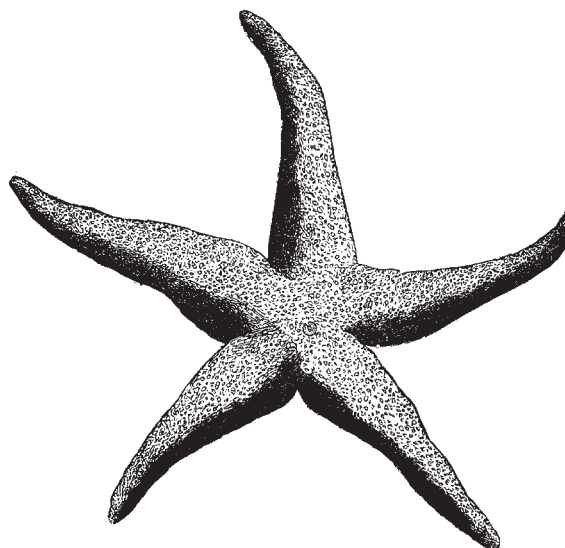
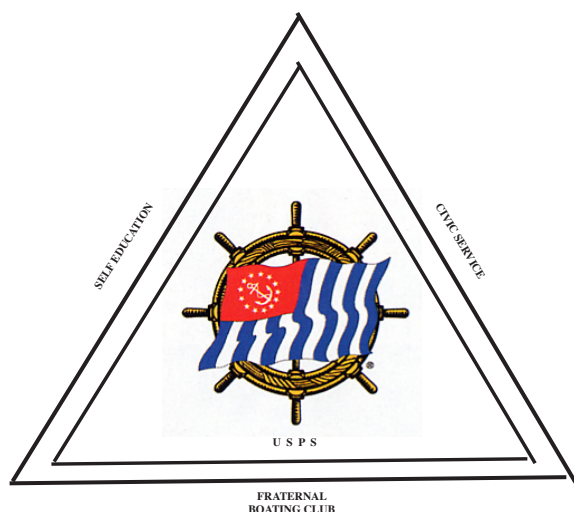
November is the month of Thanksgiving. We in AASPS and in the USA have a lot to be thankful for. By accident of birth we happen to live in the greatest country the world has ever known and in the time of the greatest abundance the world has ever known. What more can I say?

I believe that, for those to whom much has been given, much is expected. So, we in the USA and USPS, and AASPS have been given much, and much is expected. Are we living up to this ideal?

Our squadron held a retreat a few months ago. We decided that we need to change some things to grow. We agreed to have a telephone tree and make a better effort at inviting members to our meetings. Done. We agreed to make a concentrated drive to have vessel inspectors and inspections. Done. We agreed to try a different venue for meetings. Done. We agreed to have meetings in a restaurant instead of potluck meals. Done. We agreed to have better PR. We agreed to have more classes. Done.

Remember that our next meeting will be at the Classssic Cup Café'. See the announcement later in the Porthole.

Christmas Party. The Christmas party this year is a work in progress. Watch for details and plan on attending. You will not be disappointed!





Education Officer's Message

Lt/C Ron Schwartz, SN, Life



It's fun to teach and learn

The 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 - is in progress. Call Bob Buchanan for details and enrollment. 734-971-6589.

Advanced Piloting course is in progress with Chairman P/C Art Pinsak, SN and assisted by Com. John Barr, AP.

Birmingham Power Squadron is teaching P, JN N, and Sail this winter. Contact L/C Thomas Smith, JN, SEO at tommyjohn1248@yahoo.com for details.

We need more volunteers to serve as class chairpersons - those who organize, schedule, and teach a course or seminar. Please look at the variety of subjects we can choose from at National Power Squadron's website 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 to 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>
Nov. 21, 2011	AASPS	General Meeting 5:45pm Classic Cup Cafe' see page 3.
Mar. 23-24, 2012	Dearborn	D9 Spring conference, Double Tree Hotel in Bay City

Please check USPS website (www.USPS.org), D9 website (<http://d9-usps.org/app/HomeContact.aspx>), and websites 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



For the last few Portholes, I have written about my boating experiences on the East Coast from my dockage in East Greenwich, Rhode Island. Unfortunately, I do not have any recent or interesting experiences to write about. Sadly, my boat is now out of the water, shrink wrapped, and winterized. New and wonderful experiences should begin to occur next March or April.

I will spend the winter months planning our cruises next summer. Our plans include several weekend trips plus a month long voyage along the Maine coast. I have heard from several people that in Maine “summer comes late and fall comes early”. Therefore our Maine cruise is scheduled for July. I have also heard that the fog in Maine ranges from a minor nuisance some years to a major issue in others – I’m hoping for a minor nuisance type of year! I don’t know anyone who enjoys fog, and I certainly do not.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 21st. Erika Jensen will be speaking about Invasive Species and the Great Lakes. Erika is a Senior Program Specialist at the Great Lakes Commission, an interstate compact agency that promotes the orderly, integrated and comprehensive development, use and conservation of the water and related natural resources of the Great Lakes basin and St. Lawrence River.

This will be an interesting and informative topic. The Great Lakes are truly unique, and invasive species are constantly threatening them due to the global nature of world today. Our use and enjoyment of the Great Lakes can be negatively impacted from invasive species through a wide range of ways – from the changing fisheries to clogged engine raw water intakes. Erika’s presentation will better inform us about invasive species in the Great Lakes.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the meeting.

23 foot wave sets record at Lake Michigan's south buoy!

(Grand Rapids Press 9/30/11)

Holland — A 23 foot wave was recorded by the Lake Michigan mid-lake southern buoy today — the highest reading since readings began 1981.

The buoy, about 50 miles west-southwest of Holland, takes readings from March into November each year before being shut down for the winter. The previous record was a 20.3 foot wave recorded November 1998. The wave was recorded at 4 a.m. with a wind speed of 51 mph, gusting to over 60 mph!

In southern Michigan, some nearshore waves topped 17 feet. The buoy off Bridgman, near Warren Dunes State Park, recorded a peak of wave 17.6 feet.



Executive Officer's Message

Lt/C Frank Hoy, JN, PC



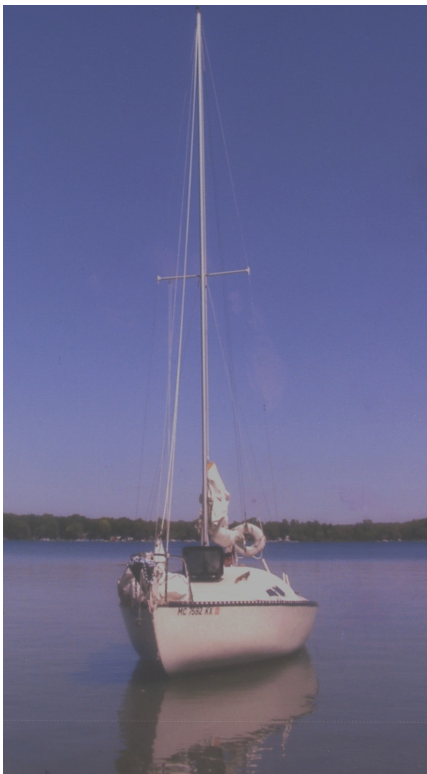
Greetings to Everyone,

We moved our monthly meeting to the Classic Cup Café two months ago. This was done in effort to bring more members out to our meetings, but, alas it has not worked. The Classic Cup Café offers good food at reasonable prices, and beer and wine are available. We have a private dining room for the meetings. We are now signed up to stay at the Classic Cup Café through the end of this year. We also have the option to continue our meetings there for all of next year. Everyone has agreed that this location is much less work than having a potluck every meeting, and offers a wide variety of food. Also the parking is excellent.

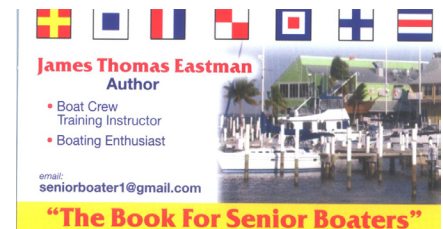
We have had good guest speakers, and more are lined up for future meetings. Our next meeting is Nov. 21, 2011, at 5:45 PM, and our guest speaker will talk about the invasive species in our Great Lakes. I look forward to seeing everyone there.

I have posted the business card from our last speaker, who has written a book for senior boaters. Anyone interested in purchasing his book may contact him at his email address.

Happy Thanksgiving to all.



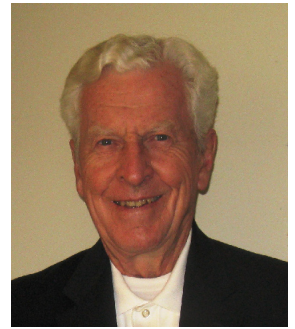
Frank's boat
Robin' Job





Secretary's Message

Lt/C Robert Buchanan, P



Nine students are making excellent progress in the *American's Boating Course* underway at WCC. The teaching faculty includes SEO Ron Schwartz, EO Frank Hoy, and Dr. Larry Marentette with Jeannine Buchanan providing logistical support. A review of the USPS Website shows that not all District 9 squadrons present the 12 hour navigation version of the ABC course. The AASPS course is the full 12 hour program with electronic navigation. Actually we at AASPS require 14 to 16 hours for completion (perhaps the course director is slow!). One result of teaching the 12 hour course is that the new USPS 800 system prints "Introduction to Coastal and Inland Navigation Endorsement" on the USPS Certificate of Completion. This certificate is recognized by the US Coast Guard.

SEO Ron and I are certified Michigan DNR instructors so that we can give students the Michigan certification examination and issue the Michigan Boating Safety Certificate as part of the course. Three students are taking the course because they operate power boats in Ontario where all power boat operators need to have certification. Environment Canada recognizes the Michigan Certificate as meeting this recent Canadian requirement. In summary, AASPS is presenting a valuable program.

This fall has not been a good month for marine safety in Michigan. The USCG website described a 47 year old male who slipped on the deck of his Bayliner tied up in Betsie Bay (Frankfort area), fell into cold water and did not survive. Ann Arbor.com described a boatload of 2 adults and 3 children who went out in Saginaw Bay in rough seas and capsized. The outcome is unknown. Whether they were wearing PFDs is also not described in the report.

These events fortify the continued need for boater education.

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