

# The Porthole

May and June  
2012



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 each month, Sept. thru June  
See pages 3 and 4 for May and June meetings



Boating Education

47 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 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. Advertising Staff for public courses and programs.

We thank Bradley Schwartz, for help with computer set-up and consulting. The Porthole is sent in color via e-mail or via US mail in black and white.

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Sail and Power Boating Education

<http://www.aaspsq.org>

**Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron  
May 2012 General Meeting  
6 pm Wednesday, May 30, 2012  
Classic Cup Café  
4389 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor  
Lat. 42° 17.119' N, Long. 83° 49.006' W**

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



Classic Cup Café



**7:15 Program: Captain Robert E. Johnston, US Navy: “Inside the Danger Zone – The Persian Gulf Tanker Wars of the 1980s”. Captain Johnston, is the Director of Facilities and Operations, College of Literature, Science and the Arts, University of Michigan. He will discuss the Tanker Wars of the late 1980s. That whole history starts with the missile attack on the USS STARK, the mining of the USS SAMUEL B ROBERTS, Operation Praying Mantis (that he was part of) and the shooting down of the Iranian airliner by USS VINCENNES. It’s a little known part of US Navy history that encompasses many issues that are still with us in this new world of unconventional warfare.**



**USS STARK**



**USS SAMUEL B ROBERTS**



**USS VINCENNES**



**Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron**  
**June 2012 Picnic Meeting**  
**6 pm Monday, June 11, 2012**  
**Argo Pond Livery**  
**Ann Arbor**  
**Lat. 42° 17.47' N, Long. 83° 44.68' W**

Sail and Power Boating Education  
<http://www.aaspsq.org>

6 pm to 9 pm Picnic Potluck: We will meet at the Argo Pond Park and Launch Site - east side of Huron River next to Argo Pond Canoe Livery on Longshore Dr.

Please bring a dish to pass - Please call Sharon Pinsak - 734-973-0441, and tell her what food you want to bring so we can have a variety. Sharon Pinsak will bring beer, wine, pop and fried chicken, plates, cups, tableware. \$5 each.

You can bring a small boat or canoe or kayak, or rent one.  
 There is a shallow, small boat launch site.



#### DIRECTIONS

Exit M14 at Exit #4 and take Barton Dr. south and east to Longshore Dr. Follow Longshore Dr. south along the river to the Argo Canoe Livery. X on the map.

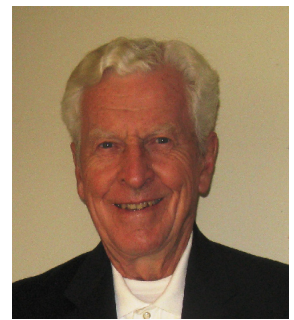
Or, from downtown, take Division St. north to Broadway St. Follow Broadway St. northeast to Moore St. Take Moore St. northwest. Moore St. will become Longshore Dr. on the west side of Pontiac Tr. Continue west to the river.

Canoe Livery and picnic site



## Commander's Message

Cdr. Robert Buchanan, P



At our April meeting, we honored our Past Commander Robert J. Cox AP by presenting his 50 year USPS membership award. This presentation was a highlight in the life of our squadron. Everyone was glad to see Bob in good health as he enjoyed and contributed to our meeting. Bob's son, Douglas Cox from the Mt. Clemens squadron accompanied him. Bob has received well over 40 merit marks, held a number of leadership posts in District 9, founded the former Kalamazoo squadron.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, May 30th at the Classic Cup Café. I encourage folks to arrive at 6:00 pm or shortly before to allow time for cocktails and conversation. Our speaker will be Captain Robert Johnston, USN (ret.). Bob graduated from the University of Michigan in naval science, and spent his career as a naval surface warfare officer. After commanding several ships, he returned to Michigan as Commandant of the Naval ROTC unit. Bob now works for the University but continues to teach naval history at the ROTC unit.

Here is a synopsis of his talk that he sent me: "I'll discuss the Tanker Wars of the late 1980s. That whole history starts with the missile attack on the USS STARK, the mining of the USS SAMUEL B ROBERTS, Operation Praying Mantis (that I was part of) and the shoot down of the Iranian airliner by USS VINCENNES. It's a little known part of US Navy history that encompasses many issues that are still with us in this new world of unconventional warfare."

Bob is an enthusiastic speaker so we can look forward to a fascinating program. I would encourage everyone to bring guests. This will be a wonderful opportunity to meet with a real "blue water combat officer." If you bring a guest, a courtesy call or e-mail to Sharon Pinsak will help insure that we have adequate table space. Her contact information is found in the Porthole.

Two comments for the soon-to-arrive boating season.

- Operation of any motorized boat in Canada requires that the operator have a Pleasure Craft Operators card. The Michigan DNR Boating Safety Certificate (which our squadron includes in our ABC course) will meet this requirement.
- Sea Tow has created a network of radio stations to allow boaters to request a radio check without using VHF Channel 16. ARC (automatic radio check) uses one of VHF channels 24, 26, 27, or 28. Simply tune your radio to the proper channel for your community. Conduct a radio check as you normally would. Upon releasing the microphone, the system will replay your transmission, letting you hear how you sound. You can learn more from the Sea Tow website.



P/C Bob Cox, AP receives a 50 year membership plaque from Cdr. Bob Buchanan, P

Bob and Doug Cox





## Education Officer's Message

Lt/C Ron Schwartz, SN, Life



**ABC graduate:** Congratulations to Dwight Saunders for passing the ABC and DNR exams.

**Future Classes:** This fall we plan to offer ABC3 (October 2 thru Nov. 20), Weather, Seamanship, and any other class or seminar if we can get instructors and students.

**VHF radio checks:** Sea Tow has created a network of radio stations to allow boaters to do radio checks without using VHF Ch 16. Call on Channel 24, or 26, or 27, or 28 depending on your area. Key your microphone and speak clearly. The system will playback your transmission. I will have free decals with these instructions at our next meeting and picnic.

We need more volunteers to serve as class chairpersons - those who organize, schedule, and teach a course or seminar - so that we can teach more of the subjects available through USPS. Please look at the variety of subjects we can choose from at United States Power Squadron's website, <http://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.

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**Carbon Monoxide Poisoning** can occur in insidious ways. Any time there is a following wind, your engine exhaust can enter and fill the cabin with carbon monoxide. Read the story about this in the latest edition of the Ensign on page 5. by Jim Moran.

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## AASPS 2012 Rendezvous

Contact Bob Buchanan or John Barr for details.

Com. Robert Buchanan, P 734-971-6589 BuchananRA@msn.com

P/C John M. Barr, AP, Life 734-483-0839 JMBarr@BarrLawFirm.com

Jun 20. 5:30 pm at Sinbad's on the Detroit River prior to the June 20 Education Cruise. This will allow time for the 7:00 pm boarding.

In July, a Princess Detroit River Cruise. A number of dinner cruises are offered, Sunday afternoon or Saturday evening, and some week days. Cost for an adult is \$65, including great prime rib buffet. Marlene took the cruise last year and reports it delightful. We would have to get a date. Marlene thinks the cruise may be available for the District 9 Detroit USPS conference. If so, that date would fill up fast.

August 11, we could again take the Hessel Antique boat cruise and show.



## Secretary's Message

Lt/C Jeannine Buchanan



At the April 25th AASPS meeting, our Past Commander John Barr presented an excellent program titled "The Waterways of India". In addition to the photographs, John, Marlene, and John, Jr. told us about India today based on their recent travels. First, India has a population of 1.3 Billion people compared to 351 Million for the U.S. Although India is the 6th largest country in the world, their population density is 954 people per square mile compared to 87 per square mile here. This means that over 10 times as many are squeezed into the same area, resulting in immense poverty. A contributing factor to poverty is that India has put their educational emphasis on higher education at the expense of primary education. This has resulted in an unskilled workforce; this is changing. But India is the world's largest democracy, a remarkable achievement.

Culturally India has 2 languages, English and Hindi. India has a long history of intellectual discovery in mathematics, astronomy, numbers theory; the first university started in 700 BC. Remnants of the four castes can still be found. Although the fifth caste, the "Untouchables" was outlawed in 1947, discrimination against these people, the Dalits, still persists.

India has an extensive system of waterways yet only 0.1% of freight is moved on inland waterways compared to 21% in the U.S. John Barr, Jr. commented that India will be a major force in international politics although they still have significant economic problems.

I hope you have enjoyed these comments.



P/C John Barr, AP, describes his trip to India



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

A partial list of events

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SPONSOR</u>	<u>EVENT AND LOCATION</u>
May 30 Wed.	AASPS	General meeting at the Classic Cup Cafe'. See page 3.
June 11 Mon.	AASPS	Picnic at Argo Pond park. Potluck.\$5 for chicken and wine. See pge 4.
June 20	AASPS	Rendezvous. 5:30 pm at Sinbads. See page 6.
June 20	D9	Bristol Bay Education Cruise. See separate e-mail.
July	AASPS	Princess Detroit River Cruise. See page 6.
August 11	AASPS	Cruise -- Les Cheneaux (Hessel) Wooden Boat Show. See page 6.
Sept. 4	USPS/D9	Detroit Tigers Baseball Game . See page 10.
Sept. 4-9	USPS/D9	USPS 2012 Governing Board mtg.Detroit. See Ensign.
Sept. 20-23		Metrobeach Boat show

## 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	Calypso	June 2012
Bob Cox		May 2013

Internet sites for other Squadron activities.

For quick access to any of the D-9 Squadrons, click on the Links section of our website

<http://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](http://www.annarborsailandpowersquadron.org/district9_links.html)

Or alternatively, for a list of D-9 websites visit: <http://www.usps.org/newpublic2/squadrons.html>

Please check USPS website ([www.USPS.org](http://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.



## Executive Officer's Message

P/C Frank Hoy, JN



Hello to one and all

Well, the weather has taken on a more Michigan spring like appearance. I'm sure the warmer weather is right around the corner.

I have been working on getting the materials we will need to do the vessel safety inspections for our squadron. I am fortunate to have Ron Schwartz helping me get these materials ordered, -- thank you Ron. My plan is to try to get us some attention from District 9 and USPS National doing vessel safety checks. It may not happen overnight, but with a concentrated effort it is possible. I welcome any help from any person in the squadron. I thank you all for whatever you do to make our squadron run a little smoother.





# Governing Board, Detroit

## Detroit Tigers vs Cleveland Indians September 4, 2012



Come join your fellow Power Squadron members for a fun-filled evening, at Comerica Park, to watch the defending, American League East Champion Detroit Tigers, take on the Cleveland Indians. We will take the People Mover to the Grand Circus Park exit for a short walk to the Park. Cost is \$25 and includes tokens for the trip to and from the Detroit Marriott, host hotel, for the Meeting. Tickets are limited. Reservations must be in by July 10th, for the baseball game. The registration form may be found at [usps.org](http://usps.org). Your host for this event is Dearborn Sail & Power Squadron.

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### Gasoline Quality

Boat US Magazine, December 2011, has several articles about E10 verses E15 gasoline, and other subjects about the quality and storage of gasoline.

### Member Benefits Help Pay for Your Membership!

Did you know that you can pay for your membership by using Member Benefits? The savings you receive can easily cover the cost of your dues. You can save more than \$150 on a single cell phone (depends on model and service). That's enough to pay national and squadron dues for you and maybe even for your family! Use even more benefits, and you can save enough to pay for your change of watch dinner! It all adds up, so what are you waiting for? Check out the latest additions to the Member Benefits website! (Feel free to reprint this notice in your newsletters and publications.) — Kristi Anderson

READ MORE [usps.org/newpublic2/redir/benefits.html](http://usps.org/newpublic2/redir/benefits.html)

For discounts for USPS members on various products, go to the MEMBER BENEFITS page at the USPS web site

[http://www.usps.org/national/admin\\_dept/benefitsdescription.htm#Techsoup](http://www.usps.org/national/admin_dept/benefitsdescription.htm#Techsoup)

## **Drowning Does Not LOOK Like Drowning**

Source: On Scene Magazine: Fall 2006

Dr. Pia, in an article in the Coast Guard's "On Scene Magazine," described the Instinctive Drowning Response like this:

1. Except in rare circumstances, drowning people are physiologically unable to call out for help. The respiratory system was designed for breathing. Speech is secondary. Breathing must be fulfilled, before speech occurs.
2. The mouths of drowning people are not above the surface of the water long enough for them to exhale, inhale, and call out for help. When the drowning people's mouths are above the surface, they exhale and inhale quickly before their mouths start to sink below the surface of the water.
3. Drowning people cannot wave for help. Nature instinctively forces them to extend their arms laterally and press down on the water's surface. Pressing down on the surface of the water permits drowning people to leverage their bodies so they can lift their mouths out of the water to breathe.
4. Throughout the Instinctive Drowning Response, drowning people cannot voluntarily control their arm movements. Drowning people who are struggling on the surface of the water cannot stop drowning and perform voluntary movements such as waving for help, moving toward a rescuer, or reaching out for a piece of rescue equipment.
5. From beginning to end of the Instinctive Drowning Response, people's bodies remain upright in the water with no evidence of a supporting kick. Unless rescued by a trained lifeguard, these drowning people can only struggle on the surface of the water from 20 to 60 seconds before submerging occurs. This doesn't mean that a person that is yelling for help and thrashing isn't in real trouble – they are experiencing Aquatic Distress. Not always present before the Instinctive Drowning Response, victims in aquatic distress may be able to assist in their own rescue. They can grab lifelines, cushions, rings, etc.

Look for these other signs of drowning:

Head low in the water, mouth at water level  
Head tilted back with mouth open  
Eyes glassy and empty, unable to focus, or closed  
Hair over forehead or eyes  
Not using legs – Vertical  
Hyperventilating or gasping  
Trying to swim, but not making headway  
Trying to roll over on their back

So if a crew member falls overboard, ask him, Are you okay? If he can answer at all – he probably is. If he returns a blank stare – you may have less than 30 seconds to get to him.

Parents: children playing in the water make noise. When they get quiet, you get to them and find out why.