

# The Porthole

March/April 2013



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 the 3rd. Monday of each month, Sept. thru June. See pages 3 and 8 for our schedule.



There is no meeting in March 2013. Boating Education

48 YEARS SERVING  
THE BOATING PUBLIC



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Administrative Officer: Lt/C Curtis Hoff, P  
Education Officer: Lt/C Ron Schwartz, SN, Life  
Secretary: Lt/C Jeannine Buchanan  
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Chairman Seamanship: P/C John M. Barr, AP, Life  
Chairman of Local Boards: P/C Arthur Pinsak, SN, Life  
Chairman of Piloting: P/C Arthur Pinsak, SN, Life  
Chairman of Adv. Piloting: P/C Arthur Pinsak, SN, Life  
Chairman Elective Courses: P/C Bob Snider, SN, Life  
Chairman Weather: P/C Bob Snider, SN, Life  
Chairman of N: P/C Arthur Pinsak, SN, Life  
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<http://www.annarborsailandpowersquadron.org>  
or <http://www.aaspsq.org>

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, Ch. of various seminars.  
Misc. Staff - Ch. Member Involvement, Ch. Operations Training. Advertising Staff for public courses and programs.

Thank you Shih-Chieh Yin  
for your design of front page  
of the Porthole

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**  
**Monday, April 15, 2013**  
**the Carlyle Grill, 6 PM**  
**3660 Jackson Rd.**  
**Lat. 42° 17' 8"N, Long. 83° 48' 13"W**

**6 pm: We will meet at the Carlyle Grill, 3660 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor. West of the Lighthouse Car Wash. Order from the menu. Please call Sharon Pinsak for reservations. 734-973-0441. Open wine bar. Visit their website to see the excellent menu.**

<http://www.carlylegrill.com/>

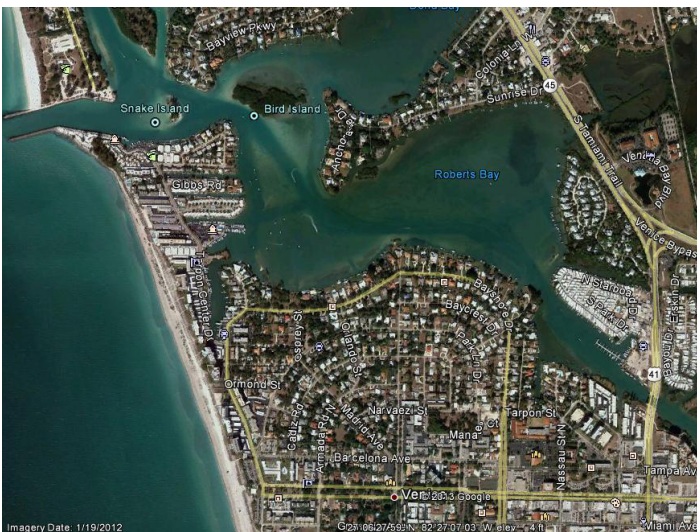


Cpt. Jim Irwin



Carlyle Grill 3660 Jackson Rd. west of Wagner Rd. (North side of Jackson Rd.)

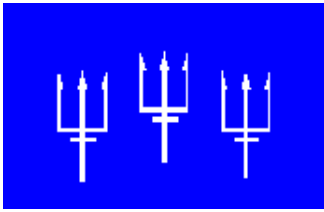
**Captain Jim Irwin** will speak about “Practical Boating”. Jim is an at-large member of USPS and a former member of AASPS. An Ann Arbor resident, Jim has a 200-ton Merchant Marine master’s license from the Coast Guard, and more than 25 years boating experience in fresh and salt water. He and his wife, Millie, cruise Florida’s coastal and inland waterways on their 55’ custom power yacht, the “Lady M”, which is conveniently docked behind their house in Venice, FL. A successful businessman, the author of a best-selling baseball biography, and a published songwriter, Jim nevertheless puts boating first in his list of favorite activities. He will share his “common sense” experiences on the water.



Venice, Florida



Friends heading for Snake Island, west of Bird Island in Venice, FL. Photo by Sainty09



## Commander's Message

Cdr. Robert Buchanan, P



Boaters are folks who crave the adventure of finding new ports and seeking new anchorages. Looking over the horizon for a new marina characterizes Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron. Our former meeting place, Damon's Grill, has gone under water, permanently closed its hatches. Our new anchorage for our April 15th meeting will be Carlyle Grill at 3660 Jackson Rd Ann Arbor, MI 48103, meeting at 6:00 pm. Travel west from Ann Arbor on Jackson, pass the Ford dealer on your starboard side and keep a sharp lookout for the Quality 16 theater. Carlyle Grill is directly in front of the theater -- just off the bow. Jeannine and I have been AASPS members for only 5 years; Carlyle Grill will be our 4th harbor, so perhaps AASPS is becoming a traveling club.

Jeannine and I have visited Carlyle Grill and are confident that it will fulfill our squadron's needs. We will continue our meeting format that has worked nicely: open wine bar with pinot grigio hosted by the squadron, then you may order from the menu. Their menu is available through their website and shows that Carlyle Grill has something for everyone at reasonable prices. The meeting will end promptly for anyone who still needs to prepare their income tax! Importantly, the people at Carlyle Grill asked if we give them a "head count" as late as the afternoon of the meeting. This means that we need to inform Sharon Pinsak at 973-0441.

We have another exciting speaker for the April 15th meeting. Captain James Irwin will talk to us about Practical Boating. Jim has retired from Wolverine Temporary Services which he founded and for which he was CEO. He then went on to obtain his 200 ton masters license. Now has several power boats at their Venice, Florida residence. Jim is also a past member of our squadron - remembers P/C John and Marlene Barr.

In addition to a wonderful fund of boating knowledge, Captain Jim will be a lively, fun-loving speaker who can bring his topic alive. This will be an exciting evening, new anchorage, and delightful program, but the same smiling faces.

Our May 20th meeting has great promise. Our own Curtis Hoff and Frank Hoy will talk to us about *Who Invited Sandy on Board?*







## Secretary's Message

Lt/C Jeannine Buchanan



We have been informed by USPS national headquarters that the 2013 member dues are unchanged. Briefly, the annual rate for active members is \$84, for active families will continue to be \$105.50. Individual dues are billed on a cycle throughout the year depending on when folks joined USPS. For example, we joined in October so we receive our statement in September. Dues are divided about equally between the squadrons and USPS national with some small support (\$5) for District 9. I believe that USPS dues continue to be a bargain. The USPS website has a wealth of current boating information and membership benefits. Members can take USPS classes at a reduced rate.

Our District 9 conferences are always delightful. Lastly, USPS members know that "they are doing the right thing."

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Pictures from our February 2013 meeting by Ron Schwartz



From LimnoTech were Meadow and Cullen O'Brian, and our speaker Chris Behnke.



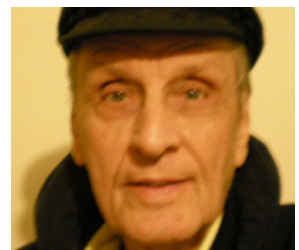
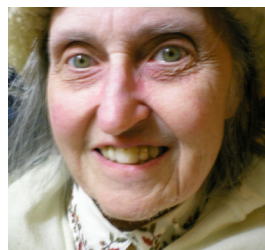
Jeannine and Robert Buchanan



Randy Stevenson



John Barr Jr., John and Marlene Barr

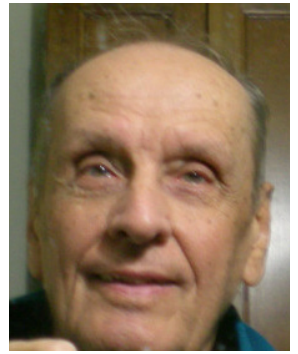


Shirley and Ron Schwartz



## Education Officer's Message

Lt/C Ron Schwartz, SN, Life



USPS Basic Boating Classes can be found at toll free 1-888-367-8777 (1-888-FOR-USPS) Or go to [www.usps.org](http://www.usps.org)

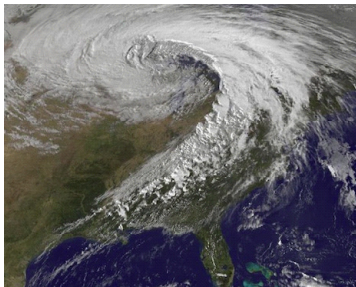
**Our** ABC class at WCC is complete. Congratulations to our students; Ingrid Amberg, Ross and Barbara Keddle, Dianne Malesko, Robert Pineau, Rebecca Shark, Debra Hauser, and Lisa Wand.

For future ABC classes, contact Cdr. Bob Buchanan, P 734- 971-6589.

Weather class needs more students. Seamanship class starts in April 4 and runs for 8 weeks at John Barr's office at 105 Pearl St., Ypsilanti. Contact John Barr for more details.

**Why volunteer ? According to Parade Magazine (January 27, 2013, page 10), "Volunteering reduces depression and improves your sex life." What are you waiting for !**

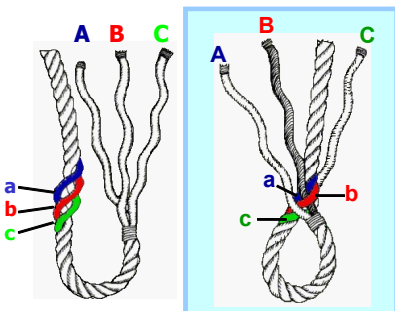
We need more volunteers to serve as class chairpersons - those who organize, schedule, and teach a course or seminar - so that we can teach more of the subjects available through USPS. Please look at the variety of subjects we can choose from at United States Power Squadron's website, [www.usps.org](http://www.usps.org)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



Hurricane on East Coast

## Class Schedules

**Weather Course:** About 8 to 10 weeks. Please contact Lt. Randy Stevenson, AP for details. 734-429-5099. [www.rstevenson@accioenergy.com](mailto:www.rstevenson@accioenergy.com)  
Cost is \$64 for members and \$144 for non-members.



Eye Splice

**Seamanship Course:** Starts Thursday April 4, 2013 for 8 weeks at John Barr's office at 105 Pearl St., Ypsilanti. Cost is \$57 for members and \$137 for non-members. Please contact P/C John Barr, AP for details. 734-483-0839.





## Executive Officer's Message P/C Frank Hoy, JN



Ahoy Ann Arbor Mateys,

It's the first of March already and spring is right around the corner. March 10th is the start of Daylight Savings Time. Don't forget to "spring" those clocks ahead. As I stated before the red tide is worse this year around here, Port Charlotte, Florida, than it's been in years. Tourism is up by several million dollars at the same time. March is forecast to be cooler than normal this year in Florida. Oh well, still no snow to shovel. Sending along a photo of a canal full of boats on lifts.

I will be getting ready for Vessel Safety Inspections (V.S.I.) this spring when I return to Michigan. I also have to do the refresher training for being an instructor for AAS&PS. I am sure that everything will fall into place, and I will be able to contribute towards the betterment of the squadron. I hope that everyone else in the squadron takes the same attitude. The more involved we are, the better things run. Thank you for all you do.



Canal Boat Lifts in Port Charlotte Florida. Photo by Frank Hoy

**For member benefits information go to  
[www.usps.org/memberbenefits](http://www.usps.org/memberbenefits)**



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

## A Partial List of Events

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SPONSOR</u>	<u>EVENT AND LOCATION</u>
		No March General Meeting
April 5-7	D9	Spring District Conference in Pontiac. See page 9.
April 9	AASPS	Seamanship Course starts for 8 weeks. Please contact P/C John Barr, AP 734-483-0839.
April 15th	AASPS	Captain James Irwin will talk to us about Practical Boating. See page 3.
May 20th	AASPS	Our own Curtis Hoff and Frank Hoy will talk to us about <i>'Who Invited Sandy on Board ?'</i>

## 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.



# Free Charts

From Anchor Lines, Dearborn Power Squadron newsletter, April 2013.

Subject: [RBS-Alerts] NOAA Announces Free Nautical 'Booklet Charts' for boaters.

[http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2013/20130128\\_freenauticalchartbooklets.html](http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2013/20130128_freenauticalchartbooklets.html)

One of NOAA's handiest navigation products, especially for recreational boaters, has been Coast Survey's experimental Booklet Charts -- nautical charts that are easy to download and print from home computers. Coast Survey has now moved the Booklet Charts from experimental stage into official production. Nearly a thousand newly up-dated Booklet Charts are available free on the Web.

NOAA's new official Booklet Charts cover the 95,000 miles of U.S. coastline and the Great Lakes. The Booklet Charts contain most of the information found on NOAA's full-scale nautical charts, but it is presented as reduced-scale.

"It is especially appropriate that we unveil these easy-to-use nautical charts as recreational boaters begin to think about their boating adventures for 2013," said Capt. Jon Swallow, chief of NOAA Coast Survey's Navigation Services Branch. "NOAA's nautical charts help to protect lives and property, and boaters should take advantage of these free nautical products."

"Many boaters don't use nautical charts, trusting local knowledge or their memories. But that can be dangerous, as seafloors constantly shift, shorelines erode, and dangers to navigation are discovered," Swallow said. "Booklet Charts will tell a boater about these developments, and will help ensure a safe voyage, whether it is around the bay or down the coast."

Since the Booklet Charts are easy to access from the Web, easy to print, and easy to carry in a pocket, NOAA officials hope that tens of millions of recreational boaters who may not normally use charts will use these.

Several years ago, the Office of Coast Survey introduced experimental Booklet Charts as PDFs in an 8-by-11 inch format, to test public demand and use. The product has been tremendously successful, receiving kudos by recreational boaters and boating organizations. Coast Survey has subsequently upgraded the chart displays and navigational information for the official product. While Booklet Charts are great for recreational use, they do not fulfill chart carriage requirements for regulated commercial vessels under Titles 33 and 46 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

NOAA's Office of Coast Survey, originally formed by President Thomas Jefferson in 1807, updates the nation's nautical charts, surveys the coastal seafloor, responds to maritime emergencies and searches for underwater obstructions and wreckage that pose a danger to navigation. Follow Coast Survey on Twitter @nauticalcharts, and check out the NOAA Coast Survey blog at <http://noaacoastsurvey.wordpress.com> for more in-depth coverage of surveying and charting.

NOAA's mission is to understand and predict changes in the Earth's environment, from the depths of the ocean to the surface of the sun, and to conserve and manage our coastal and marine resources. Join us on Facebook, Twitter and our other social media channels at <http://www.noaa.gov/socialmedia/>.

On the web:

NOAA Office of Coast Survey: <http://nauticalcharts.noaa.gov>

NOAA BookletCharts: <http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/staff/BookletChart.html>