

The Porthole

June 2014



The newsletter of the Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron
a unit of United States Power Squadrons
www.aaspsq.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 page 3



www.aaspsq.org

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Boating Education

49 YEARS SERVING
THE BOATING PUBLIC



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

Volunteers are welcome and needed for the following opportunities:

Photographer needed to take pictures at our meetings and e-mail them to our Porthole publisher.

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.

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.

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Photos by John Barr Jr. and Ron Schwartz

We thank Bradley and George Schwartz and Freddy Ohou for help with computer consulting.





Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron Picnic

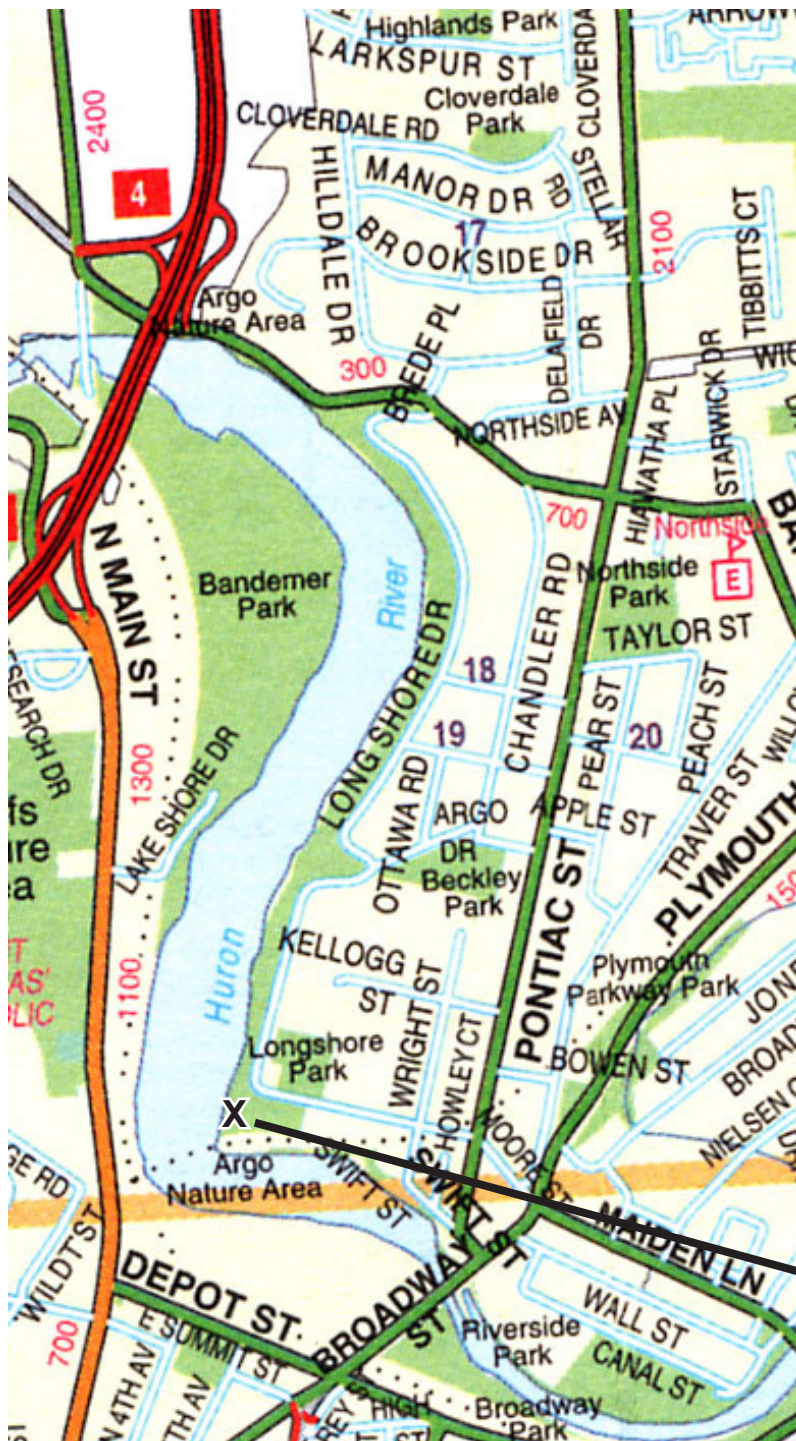
Monday, 9 June 2014

Argo Pond Park and Canoe Livery

Lat. 42° 17.47' N, Long. 83° 44.68' W

Sail and Power Boating Education

www.aaspsq.org



6 pm to 9 pm Picnic Potluck: We will meet at the Argo Pond Park and Launch Site on the east side of the 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. \$10 each.

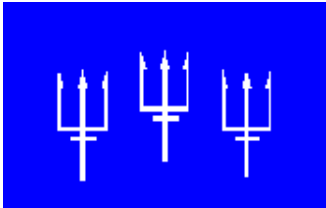
DIRECTIONS

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. or Detroit 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

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



Commander's Message

Cdr. Robert Buchanan, P



First, be sure to check the Secretary's Comments about our squadron summer picnic.

One of the many strengths of our squadron is how members step forward when more help is needed. We have 13 students in the ABC program so P/C Art Pinsak volunteered to help grade the USPS and the Michigan DNR exams. This means that students will not have to wait for a grader, also can receive some comments on questions that they missed. Then both Art and Peter Hinman will be available as table proctors for the charting and plotting section. Art teaches advanced piloting and navigation, Peter is a mathematician so the students will have capable support.

We have survived the polar vortex! If anyone complains about the summer heat, ask them to scrub the bottom of your boat. Our P/C John Barr reported that their Upper Peninsula resort was still not accessible due to snow at the end of April. A recent article in the Detroit Free Press reported that the Great Lakes were still 26% ice covered at the end of April compared to 1% at the same time last year. Lake Superior was still 50% ice covered.

I described a night sail in Florida in the May Porthole. Our son called last week to describe another sail which was full of lessons. He reported that he was talking to a friend on his cell phone, missed a green buoy marking a channel and ran aground. Lesson #1 is whether the helmsman can afford to be on the cell phone in narrow channels. He used his Danforth to kedge off which is a good procedure but then could not retrieve the anchor. A passing powerboater offered to help. The result was that the rode promptly fouled the propeller of the powerboat. Lesson #2 is that lines in the water deserve respect. He then dove under the power boat to cut the fouled rode. I threw a fit! Lesson #3 is that the engine must be stopped and the transmission in reverse to absolutely avoid any chance of a propeller strike. This can be fatal if an artery is cut. Our 10 year old grandson had it right! When all this was unfolding, he went below and put his life jacket on. Good man!

Lastly, you still have time to join the Bristol Bay Cruise June 25th. Boarding is at 7:00 pm, departure at 7:30 pm with a 10:30 pm scheduled return although return tends to be later.

In addition to a great educational experience, this is a once-only opportunity to have the run of the cutter out on the Detroit River and Lake St. Clair. I have reservation forms which can be sent by e-mail.



Carolyn Knaggs, Peter Hinman, John Barr and Karen Snyder at our May General Meeting





Secretary's Message

Lt/C Jeannine Buchanan



A visit to the recently opened National Museum of the Great Lakes at Toledo can be a delightful summer day trip. The museum traces the history of the Great Lakes from the earliest explorers to Great Lakes shipping today. The exhibit labels provide detailed explanations, require about an hour of study. The freighter Col. James M. Schoonmaker which sailed the lakes from 1911 to 1981 has been restored and is adjacent to the museum, available for self-guided tours. The staterooms for passengers and the captain are absolutely elegant but the bridge had only radar and a direction finder, none of the electronics that we use today. You can prowl the depths of the engine room which contains the steam turbines.

I have a few suggestions to create a wonderful day. First, select good weather because much of the Schoonmaker tour is outside. Then visit the website to check on times and costs which are quite reasonable. Consider taking a picnic lunch; although tables are not yet available, the grounds have an abundance of benches. Parking is abundant but direction signs are minimal so either prepare a map from Mapquest or use your GPS, smart phone, etc. The address is 1701 Front Street, Toledo.

We spent about 20 minutes talking to one of the volunteer docents who was the second mate on the Schoonmaker until it was taken out of service. On November 10, 1975 he was on the bridge northbound just above Detour when he heard to the Arthur M. Anderson report that they had lost visual contact with the Edmund Fitzgerald.

May AASPS General Meeting pictures



John Barr, Jr., Jeannine, and Cdr. Bob Buchanan



Art and Sharon Pinsak



Evrard Freddy Ohou and Peggy Moller

<http://www.marinetraffic.com/> This web site has great maps and pictures of world shipping.



Education Officer's Message

Lt/C Ron Schwartz, SN, Life



Five of the seven Weather students took the exam and four passed. A large part of the fun of USPS membership is taking our courses. For some, including me, the fun is tempered by the pressure of an exam at the end. However this gloomy tension can be reduced by the fact that you can take the exam booklet home. So if you don't pass the first time you can study the booklet and take the exam again, for even more fun.

Now, we have a variety of 2 hour seminars to choose from with no exams, just pure pleasure. We will offer some of these if we have students interested.

Our teachers have been heroic in their dedication to teach classes, and I encourage them to take classes of interest to them, and, for variety, teach classes they have not taught before. In the past I have taught several of the USPS courses and enjoyed the teaching more than taking the classes.

Please send me (AAPSclasses@aol.com) a list of the USPS courses and seminars that you want to study during the next 5 years, so we can plan and advertise these and attract more students.

Please look at the variety of boating topics we offer at United States 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.

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

USPS offers On-the-water training, and certifications for Inland and Coastal Navigation. Go to www.usps.org/national/eddept/boc/main.htm#news If you are interested in this, please call me 734-769-3476.

Environmental Branch US Army Core of Engineers - Detroit District <http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/>

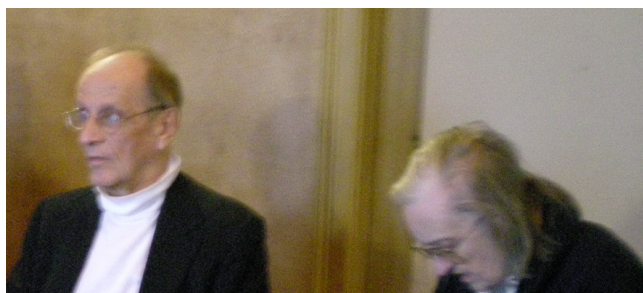
Great Lakes water levels: <http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/Missions/GreatLakesInformation/GreatLakesWaterLevels.aspx>

Put NOAA charts into your Garmin GPS

<http://www.gpsfiledepot.com/tutorials/creating-raster-noaa-charts-for-garmin-gps-units-with-moagu/>

Enjoy pictures from a private world cruise at www.tischtravels.com

More May 2014 General Meeting attendees.



Ron and Shirley Schwartz



Download NOAA Booklet Charts Free and treat yourself to a desktop cruise. <http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/staff/BookletChart.html> Use google earth to see pictures from the area.

There are many companies that give discounts to USPS members. To see this list go www.USPS.org and click on Index, then member benefits.

Internet sites for other Squadron activities. For quick access to any of the D-9 Squadrons, click on the Links section of our website www.aaspsq.org and select District 9 Squadrons.

D-9 websites: <http://d9-usps.org/>

Please check USPS website www.USPS.org and websites of squadrons near you for their activities that you might want to attend.

A Partial List of Events .

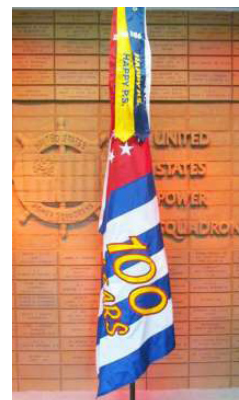
<u>DATE</u>	<u>SPONSOR</u>	<u>EVENT AND LOCATION</u>
June 9	AASPS	Picnic at Argo Pond Park - see page 3
June 25	D9	Education Cruise - Coast Guard Cutter Bristol Bay - page 10,11
Oct.17-19	D9	Fall Conference at the Doubletree in Bay City

FOR SALE

MENS UNIFORM A, B Jacket 46 Long, Trouser 38/32, Shirt 42, Shirt 17/34
Blazer 46 Long, White Trouser 38/32, Grey Trouser 38/32, Cap 7 1/2

LADIES UNIFORM A Jacket 40 Reg, Shirt 16/32, Jacket 22, Trouser 38/27, Skirt 22

Insignia included. An opportunity to acquire necessary items for fall and winter business and social events. Contact: Art Pinsak (734) 973-0441 or apnsharon@aol.com





Executive Officer's Message Lt/C Frank Hoy, JN



A Hoy Mates,

As most of you already know, I am recovering from surgery. However, I will be going out to conduct vessel safety inspections in June. I am hopeful that I will make it to the picnic on June 9, 6 PM, at the Argo Park shelter. I hope everyone has a safe and fun boating season. Warm weather looks like it's here for the summer.



More May 2014 General Meeting attendees.



John and Marlene Barr presenting their trip to South Africa at our May 2014 General Meeting

D9 Bristol Bay Education Cruise

Sign up for a 3-hour United States Coast Guard (USCG), United States Power Squadron (USPS) and United States Coast Guard Auxiliary (USCGAUX) D/9 educational opportunity aboard the 140-ft. Coast Guard Cutter "BRISTOL BAY." The Bristol Bay will also be pushing their Aids to Navigation (floating buoys, fixed aids and ranges) barge. The barge is capable of carrying approximately 250 people. Bring binoculars if you have them, and dress warmly.

The U S Power Squadron, the U S Coast Guard and US Coast Guard Auxiliary are the world's premier marine safety organizations that take great pride in sponsoring this educational opportunity to recreational basic boating students. This will be a unique 3-hour educational opportunity aboard the 140-ft ship and its 130-ft. barge for a total of a 270 foot vessel.

We will be traveling the waters of the Detroit River and Lake St. Clair. We hope this event will provide the basic boating students with a better understanding of the aids to navigation and their light characteristics. An understanding of the aids to navigation is an essential part of safe boating, although covered in the classroom during your course; it is best understood by actually seeing the aids at sea. The timing has been planned so that daytime and evening light characteristics of the aids can be seen. During the entire voyage, a Power Squadron or Coast Guard Auxiliary member and an active duty Coast Guard Officer will provide commentary. You will see and hear about Aids to Navigation and more during our river and lake cruise. You'll have fun and improve your boating safety.

Each Power Squadron and Coast Guard Auxiliary student will be given a chart replica of the river and lake areas we are going to cruise, showing the various navigational aids and their individual characteristics. They will be numbered on the chart and the actual aids and their light characteristics will be identified as we pass them.

We will begin boarding promptly at 7.00 PM at Coast Guard Station Group Detroit. This is at the foot of Mt. Elliott Avenue, right at the Detroit River. We will have personnel there to assist and direct you on parking and boarding procedures. A detailed map of the area will be mailed to you along with your boarding passes. Departure time is 7:30 P M.

CHILDREN: Children who attend the USPS or the USCGAUX Public Boating Courses are welcome to participate in this educational opportunity. However, we must restrict participation by other family members (and friends) to those 12 years of age and older. The Power Squadron and the Coast Guard Auxiliary are family oriented organizations and we sponsor many activities that include children. But, because this cruise requires the concentration of the participants, we have the age restriction. Thanks for understanding.

ABOUT USPS: Formed in 1914, the United States Power Squadrons is the world's largest nonprofit boating organization. Their 60,000 members in the 450 squadrons are boating families who contribute to their communities by promoting safe boating on the water and in the classroom.

All USPS members are volunteers. USPS District 9 is composed of 2,003 members in 22 squadrons. Collectively, these 22 squadrons teach the USPS ABC3 Boating Course to residents of the Lower Peninsula of Michigan and Northern Indiana.

ABOUT USCGAUX: The Coast Guard Auxiliary was created by an Act Of Congress in 1939, as a non- military, civilian affiliate of the Coast Guard, and as such plays a substantial role In the National Safe Boating program. The total Coast Guard Auxiliary family consists of 35,000 volunteers. The District 9 Central region is composed of 10 Divisions, with 56 Flotillas and about 1 500 members.

All of our basic boating students are being invited to join this event and because of this, we u rge you to get your reservations in early.

Fill out the form today and mail it along with your check. We are limited to 250 passengers and expect to fill up fast. First come, first served. If you are among those who enroll too late, your check will be refunded.

Instructions:

Yes, we are interested in joining the USPS and USCGAUX educational opportunity aboard the Coast Guard Cutter "Bristol Bay" on Wednesday June 25th, 2014 and would like to reserve space now. We understand that we will be mailed boarding passes and directions to the Bristol Bay. We understand that if the cruise is canceled because of extremely bad weather we will be contacted by phone and the cruise will be rescheduled or our money will be refunded.

NAME:

ADDRESS:

CITY:

S t a t e: _____ ZIP:

Email Address:

Phone Number: _____

I have attached a check in the amount of \$.....

(\$15.00 per person to defray costs of training materials, refreshments and incidentals) to D/9 Educational Cruise Committee. Please write your phone number on the front of the check. List all names of the attendees in the space provided on the back.

Please read the following statement of responsibility and indicate your agreement by signing and dating in the space provided. This Statement must accompany your form and check. Thank You.

Responsibility:

This D/9 educational opportunity is an optional voluntary event intended to familiarize the student with Aids to Navigation. The United Stated Department of Transportation, the United Stated Coast Guard or any of its officers or agents, U S PS, US PS District 9, squadrons in District 9 and the US Coast Guard Auxiliary, Divisions, Flotillas in 9 Central Region and the District 9 Cruise Committee shall be held free of responsibility for any damage, injury or loss resulting from any cause. Alcohol and unlawful substances will not be permitted on board and any student known to have same in his or her possession shall be denied boarding.

Neither USPS , USPS District 9, the squadrons, USCG AUX , Divisions, Flotillas in 9CR the District 9 Cruise Committee employees, affiliates or representatives own, or operate, manage, control, inspect, distribute or warrant any vehicle, vessel, or any product, premises or service, provided directly or indirectly in connection with the cruise; nor are they or any of them responsible or liable for any accident, injury, illness, death, loss, damage, expense, delay or any other irregularity of any nature whatsoever arising directly from the District 9 Educational Cruise, or from any part thereof due to any cause whatsoever including negligence, strikes, terrorism or Acts Of God

(Continued

I/we agree to its terms. Passengers under the age of 18 require consent and signature of a parent or guardian. Please sign and date. We cannot make your reservation unless signed by each person

Signed: _____

Signed: _____

Signed: _____

Sign and remove this section and send it along with your check by **June 18th, 2014**.

In the space provided below, please **PRINT** the name of each member of your family or guests who will be accompanying you on the D/9 Educational Cruise.

Name: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

I understand that there will be no refund if I do not show up for the regularly scheduled cruise. If the cruise is canceled, I will be notified and the cruise will be rescheduled or my money will be refunded.

The Sponsoring Organization that I took the class from was the: _____

Power Squadron

USCGAUX _____ **Flotilla**

Fill out the form today and mail it along with your check made payable to **D/9 Educational Cruise Committee**, to:
Reservations

Stf/C Linda LaLonde, P
3734 Benstein Road
Commerce Twp. MI 48382-1813
(Phone) 248-360-9304
(Email) llalonde@us.ibm.com

Student _____

Proctor _____

Member _____

US CG/USPS®/USCGAUX
Educational Opportunity



Come Aboard
the Cutter

“Bristol Bay”

25 June 2014

Board 7: 00 PM

Depart 7: 30 PM

