

The Porthole

Dec. 2010



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
at St. Joseph Hospital's Education Center, Ann Arbor.

Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron
Boating Education



45 YEARS SERVING
THE BOATING PUBLIC

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

Thankyou 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, cover design, events page, printing and mailing copies, e-mail list and distribution.
Education Staff - Assistant Education Officer, Chairman Boating, Ch. Marine Electronics, Ch. Instructor Development,
Ch. Engine Maintenance, Ch. Teaching Aids, Calligraphy on certificates and wallet cards, Ch. of various seminars.
Misc. Staff - Chairman Meetings and Programs, 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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Christmas Party Monday, 6 Dec. 2010

6 pm at SMOKE HOUSE BLUES restaurant at 4855 Washtenaw Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48108. Across Washtenaw from University Office Supply and just west of the \$3 car wash.

Sail and Power Boating Education

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

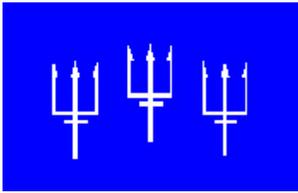


CHRISTMAS PARTY. The meeting will be Monday, December 6, 2010. We will gather at 6 pm at SMOKE HOUSE BLUES restaurant at 4855 Washtenaw Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48108. The restaurant is set back from the road and is right across Washtenaw from University Office Supply and just West of the \$3 car wash.

We have made arrangements to be able to order from the menu with individual checks. If you wish to review the menu in advance, go to www.smokehouseblues.com.

Gift raffle. Please bring unwrapped items to donate to the Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron. Raffle tickets will be sold - proceeds are donations to the Squadron. You put part of your raffle tickets into the bags next to the items you would like. A random drawing for each item will determine who gets it.





Commander's Message Comm. John Barr, AP, Life

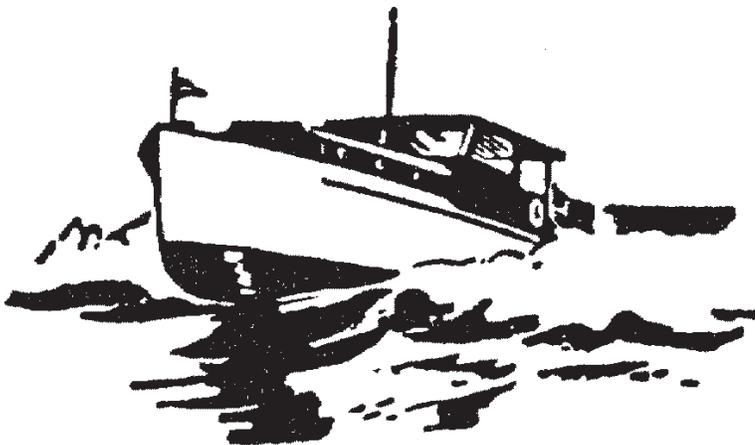


November is the month of Thanksgiving. I am very thankful for the wonderful loyal members of the Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron who make things happen. If I name names I will miss someone, so Thank You all members and Bridge Officers for all you do for USPS and AASPS!

A ship in harbor is safe, but that is not what ships are built for. John A. Shedd. The members of our squadron and of all squadrons of USPS exist to make boating safer. Our mission is to teach safe boating, and we perform our mission in an outstanding manner. The USPS course materials and teaching aids are first rate. Our instructors and proctors are all trained and doing an excellent job. Just think of how many lives and property we have saved over the last 45 years! Thinking about this makes me proud and thankful. Thank you all for making this possible.

December is the month of Christmas. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all! Please remember that we will celebrate our Christmas party at our December meeting on December 6 at the Smoke House Blues, 4855 Washtenaw, Pittsfield Township. We had the Christmas party at this venue last year and everyone enjoyed the food and party greatly. As usual, our "hostess with the mostest", Sharon Pinsak will make the arrangements. Please let her know if you will attend: 734-973-0441.

As we enjoy the holiday season please keep the less fortunate in mind. Although we live in the greatest time, place and country the world has ever known, there are plenty of people here who are hurt, suffering and in need. Please consider a generous donation to the charity of your choice. *As the purse is emptied, the heart is filled.* Victor Hugo





Education Officer's Message L/C Ron Schwartz, SN, Life



The ABC3 class at WCC's branch in Lincoln High School on Willis Rd. which, started 14 Oct. 2010, is into the charting section. Class Chairman Bob Buchanan would like proctors to help the students.

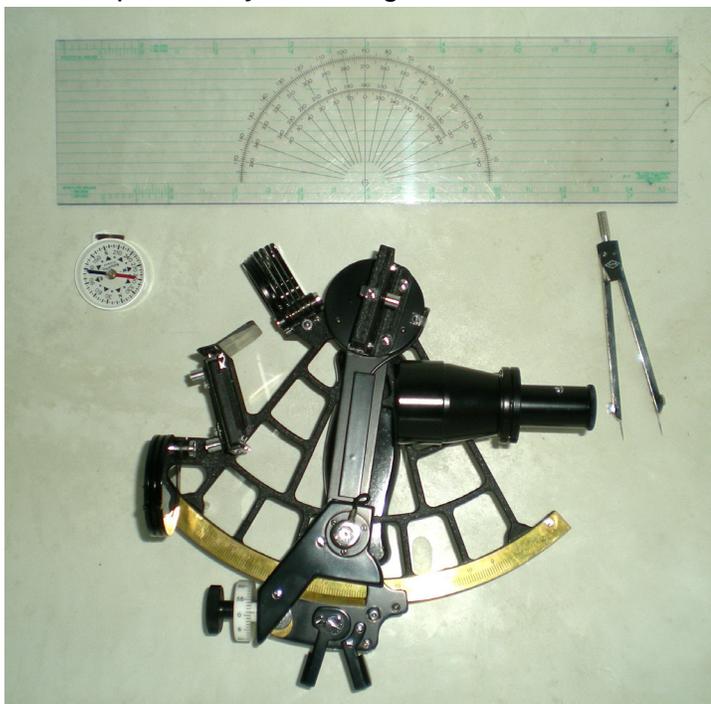
Piloting Class: Art Pinsak is teaching 7 students the USPS Piloting class at the Education Center at St. Joseph's Hospital at 7pm on Tuesday nights.

Spring 2011 ABC3 classes will start Wednesday 23 Feb. 2011 at WCC Ann Arbor, and Tuesday 8 Mar. 2011 at WCC branch in Lincoln High School.

With the new directives from USPS National, we can teach any course to anyone - member or nonmember. This gives us a wider pool of potential students. Therefore, we will try to have a class for any course USPS offers if we can get enough students.

To have a class we must first have a class chairman, then schedule the class, then advertise it in the Porthole. We need people to volunteer to be class chairmen for each course and seminar USPS offers, such as Marine Electronics, Engine Maintenance, etc.

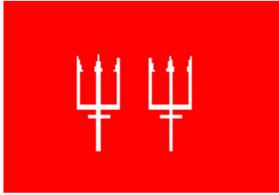
Teachers of our first public boating class must be certified. This is done by passing the Instructor Qualification course. The certification is good for 4 years. Recertification can be accomplished by attending a recertification seminar, either at a district meeting or elsewhere.



Navigation and plotting tools that don't need batteries



Administrative Officer's Message Lt/C Curtis Hoff, S



December 6 will be our last meeting of the year and be the traditional holiday party. Unfortunately I will not be able to attend since I am traveling to China and India during that time.

Important notice to everyone using the USPS website.

Until 2009 USPS website security was based on your Certificate number and your ZIP code. While this was adequate for securing information of interest only to USPS members, it was not sufficiently robust to safeguard members' personal information.

Although the USPS website will continue to support login by Certificate/ZIP code, it is in your best security interest to move to PIN based security as soon as possible.

After the 2010 Fall Governing Board, a distinction will be made between ZIP (untrusted) logons and PIN (trusted) logons. Only trusted logons will have access to functions and data which are based on jobs held or will be able to make online data updates.

To activate your PIN based security, you must first select a security question and provide the answer. Once you have done this, you will be converted from a ZIP based logon to the more robust PIN based logon. This will prevent someone, other than yourself, from logging on using your Certificate/ZIP code and potentially compromising your personal information.

Detailed written and video instructions and can be found at:

<http://www.usps.org/cgi-bin/nat/tools/pages.cgi?pins>

I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable holiday season. See you at the January meeting.

Any suggestions/volunteers for upcoming programs are always appreciated. Please contact me by phone (734) 654-7779 or e-mail choff@hoff.com.

A partial list of events

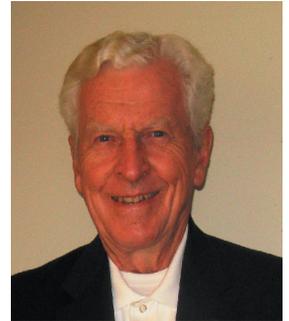
<u>DATE</u>	<u>SPONSOR</u>	<u>EVENT AND LOCATION</u>
Dec. 6	AASPS	Christmas Party See page 3
Jan. 10, 2011	AASPS	Election of officers
Feb. 21, 2011	AASPS	Change of Watch
Feb. 23, 2011	AASPS	Public Boating Course starts at WCC - contact Ron Schwartz 734-769-3476
Mar. 8, 2011	AASPS	Public Boating Course starts at Lincoln HS - contact Bob Buchanan 734-971-6589

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>

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.



Secretary's Message Lt/C Robert Buchanan, P



Jeannine and I have almost finished teaching the USPS ABC course to 8 students at Lincoln High School south of Ypsilanti. Commander John wrote about his experiences teaching the same course at Washtenaw Community College (WCC) in the last Porthole so here are a few more thoughts. First, the Lincoln Community Education department asked WCC to provide a course to start an academic adult program. The ABC course was selected as the "lead" course.

Instructing 8 students from diverse backgrounds (veterinarian, nurse, engineers, etc) has been a real challenge. All are taking the course to seek greater nautical knowledge, not because of any requirement. None have missed a class. Their questions are probing and perceptive so faking an answer is out of the question because each is thoroughly prepared.

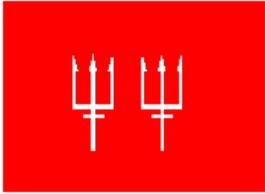
One lecture covers fire, grounding, collisions, and propeller strikes. When finished, I worried that I had scared everyone and they might give up any further nautical plans. Then Jeannine asked one student why he was in the course. His answer was "I love being on the water." This reply makes the many hours of lecture preparation well worth the effort. This simple statement is really why all of us participate in AASPS.

Ron Schwartz and I teach the ABC course so that students are prepared to also take the Michigan DNR boating safety test which gives each a Michigan boating safety certificate. This certificate is valid in all states except 3 (Utah, Colorado, and Connecticut). In other words, Michigan has wide reciprocity. Actually the certificate is a requirement to rent any boat in Florida, as I found out.

Another benefit of USPS membership is that any navigation instruments can be purchased online from Weems and Plath for an automatic 25% discount. This is described on the USPS website, and works.



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

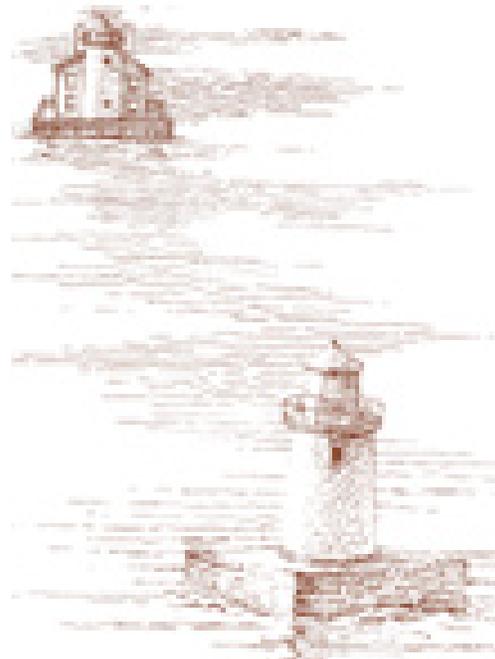
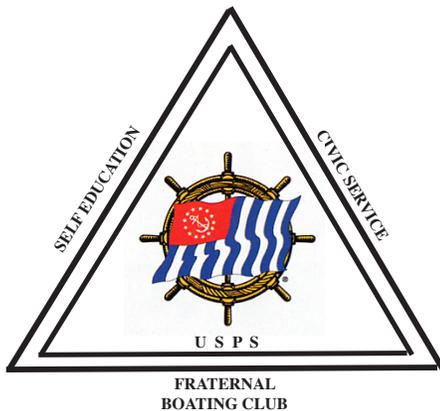


Executive Officer's Message P/C Frank Hoy, JN



I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year. I hope that we can continue to increase membership, and membership involvement in the coming year. Let us all pray for peace on earth.

P/C Frank Hoy, JN



Retired South Channel Range Lights

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. Bring or mail check to Marlene Barr, Treasurer, 1200 Whittier Road, Ypsilanti, MI 48197-2152

Name	Boat Name	Date
John and Marlene Barr		June 2011
Jeannine and Bob Buchanan	<i>Tanguary Times</i>	June 2011
Frank Hoy	<i>Bobbin' Job</i>	June 2011
Art and Sharon Pinsak	<i>Calypso</i>	June 2011
Ron and Shirley Schwartz	<i>Half Angel, Whale, and Soft Shoal</i>	June 2011