

# The Porthole

Jan. 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  
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, printing and mailing copies, e-mail list and distribution.  
Education Staff - Assistant Education Officer, 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.

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**Sail and Power Boating Education**

# General Meeting Monday, Jan. 10, 2011

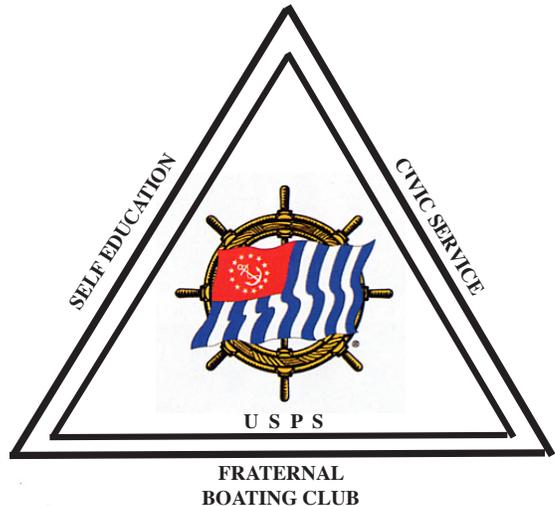
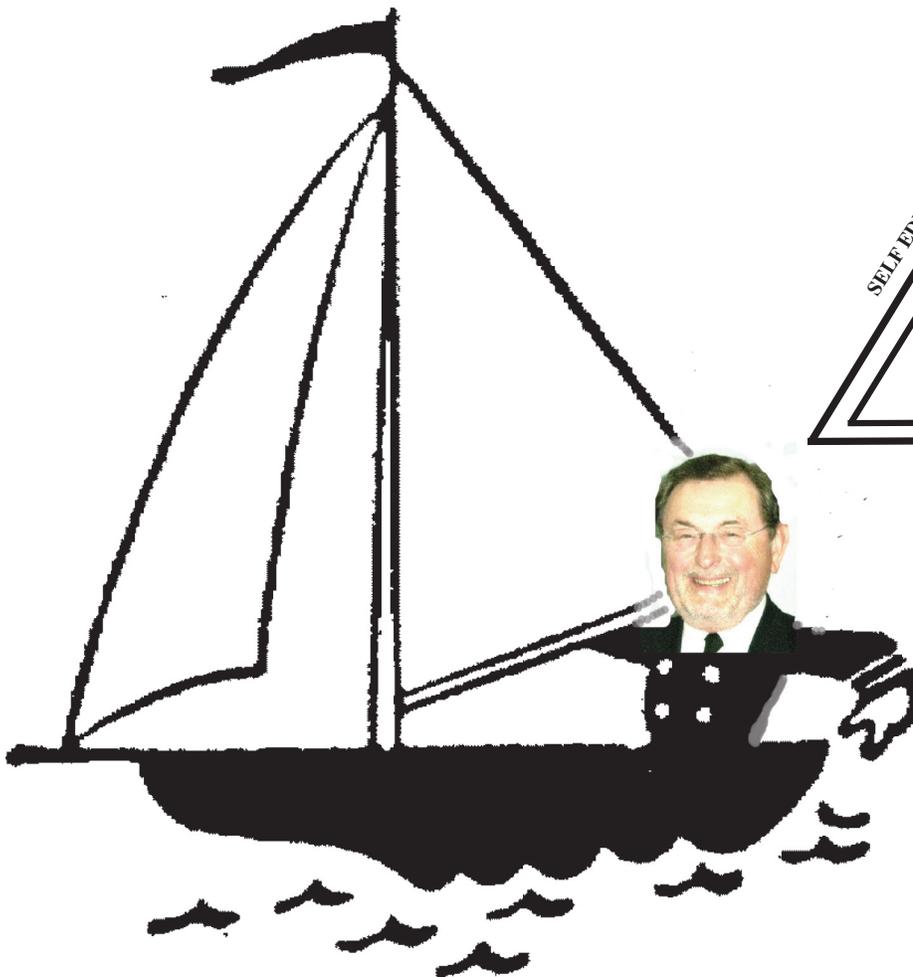
L 42° 15.8' N, Lo 83° 39.3' W  
in St. Joseph's Hospital Administration Building  
5305 Elliott Dr., parking Lot P,  
2nd floor in the Education Center.

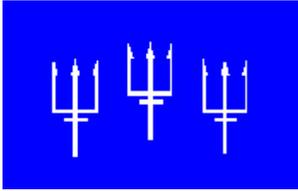
Take stairs or elevator to the 2nd. floor. Turn left and walk about 40 paces. Then turn left thru the double doors . We will be in one of the 5 conference rooms.

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

**6 pm Potluck:** 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.

**7 pm Program: John Barr has a surprise program**





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



Happy New Year! Happy 2011! Another year, another opportunity.

The beginning of a New Year is the traditional time to make New Year's Resolutions. If we all made some New Year's resolutions such as to take a USPS-AASPS course, attend all AASPS meetings and at least one District meeting, we would be off to a good start! It would be great if we have bridge officers attend the National Meeting.

Meeting place. We continue to meet at the Education Center at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the education wing. We usually meet in room EC-5.

Christmas Party. Sharon Pinsak again hosted our annual Christmas Party at the Smoke House Blues on Washtenaw Avenue. We had a wonderful meal and a jolly good time with the gift exchange. Thanks Sharon for making all the arrangements. It was great!

Annual Meeting. Our annual meeting will be Monday, January 10, 2011 with a pot luck meal at 6:00 and a surprise program and annual meeting to follow.

Meeting Uniform. The practice of AASPS lately has been a relaxed dress code with "smart casual" attire the usual dress. Uniforms and squadron blazers are always appropriate.

Nomination Committee Report. The nominating committee reports that the recommendation is to continue with the present bridge officers and executive committee members.

Change of Watch. The Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron Change of Watch will be Monday, February 21, 2011, with a pot luck meal at 6:00 and the program and change of watch after.

National Meeting. L/C Frank Hoy, JN will represent AASPS at the USPS National Meeting in Orlando, Florida, this year. Thanks Frank! All other squadron members who are in Florida are welcome to attend. The meeting will be in the Disney Hotel in Lake Buena Vista, Florida, from January 31 to February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011.



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



I want to thank all of our volunteer teachers for last years classes. Bob Buchanan, Frank Hoy, Larry Marentette and I taught the ABC classes at WCC main campus last spring and fall. Bob Buchanan taught the ABC class at Lincoln Highschool in the fall, and his wife Jeanne Buchanan and daughter assisted. Thanks to John Barr for teaching the 2010 Seamanship class. Thanks to Art Pinsak for teaching the Piloting Class. Thanks to Cary Jones for his persistence in teaching our perpetual JN class. They will meet January 5 and January 28, at the St. Joseph's Hospital education Center. Thankyou Art Pinsak for teaching the USPS Piloting course at the Education Center at St. Joseph's Hospital - the exams have been ordered.

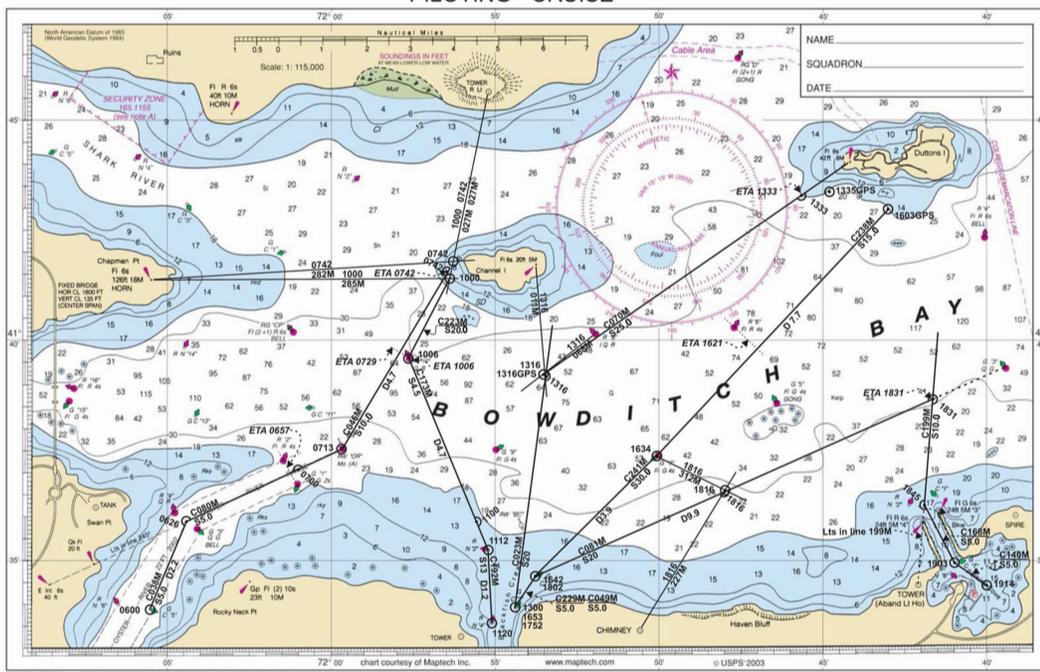
The spring 2011 ABC3 class will start Wednesday 23 Feb. 2011 at WCC.

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 teachers and enough students.

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

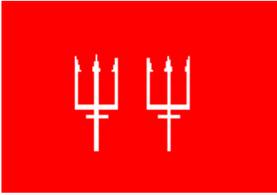
Teachers of our basic public boating class must be certified. This is achieved by passing the Instructor Qualification course. The certification is good for 4 years. Recertification can be accomplished by attending a recertification seminar (about 2 hours) , either at a district meeting or elsewhere.

## PILOTING - CRUISE \*



Piloting Class Fun

\* Note: ETAs shown on this plot are for instructional completeness - not normally shown on navigation plots



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



Happy Holidays!

I have had a busy month traveling so have been remiss in arranging a January program. Commander Barr has gracefully volunteered to provide a program for the meeting on Monday January 10.

However I have been busy transferring our Web domain from our outsourced Web company to our own control. This change is necessary due to their closing. Note that our domain and Website may be unavailable for a few days in early January as this change is finalized.

I ran across an interesting compilation of Marine Weather Internet resources that may be of interest to us boaters. I have not validated these resource so use at your own risk. Here is a link to the presentation.

[http://rjjconsulting.com/Marine%20Internet%20Weather/Marine%20Internet%20Weather\\_files/frame.htm](http://rjjconsulting.com/Marine%20Internet%20Weather/Marine%20Internet%20Weather_files/frame.htm)

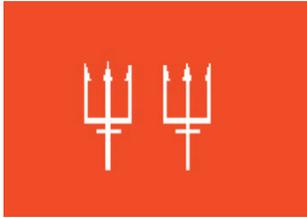
Any suggestions/volunteers for upcoming programs are always appreciated. Please contact me by phone (734) 654-7779 or e-mail [choff@hoff.com](mailto:choff@hoff.com).

## A partial list of events

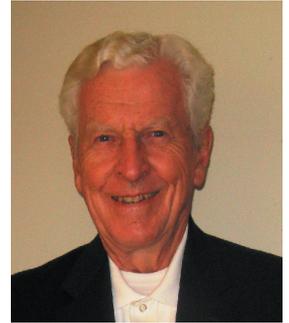
<u>DATE</u>	<u>SPONSOR</u>	<u>EVENT AND LOCATION</u>
Jan. 10, 2011	AASPS General Meeting.	See page 3. Election of officers
Feb. 21, 2011	AASPS	Change of Watch
Feb. 23, 2011	AASPS	Public Boating Course starts at WCC - contact Ron Schwartz 734-769-3476

For quick access to any of the D-9 Squadrons, click on the Links section of our website ([annarborsailandpowersquadron.org](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 web site ([www.USPS.org](http://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



This summer, which is not far away, will herald the arrival of Rescue 21, a major improvement in boating safety in the Detroit area, but 1 year behind the planned schedule. Rescue 21 was simulated at a recent squadron meeting, also described at the District Conference. Here is a fast summary for folks interested but who missed either of these presentations. Fixed-mounted marine radios sold in the past few years are required to have the ability to transmit a digital (not voice) distress signal on Channel 70. The digital transmission requires <3 seconds and includes the MMSI (Mobile Marine Service Identity) number which identifies both the boat and owner, also the nature of the distress - if entered. If your GPS is connected, your location will also be included. The Coast Guard then replies to the distress call on Channel 16. The advantages of a digital signal on Channel 70 are obvious, disadvantages are minimal.

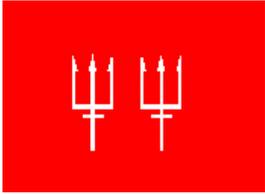
The major advance provided by Rescue 21 is that the distressed boat making the transmission can easily be located by triangulation. Two receivers, for example mounted on cell phone towers, will locate the boat. The BoatUS website contains a splendid tutorial under the "boating safety" menu.

My problem is that our marine radio is located in the navigator's station. This means that I must leave the helm station, go down the companionway, get into the navigator's desk, reach up and make the transmission, all during an emergency situation. However, handheld transceivers are now available which include both the Channel 70 sending capability and a GPS unit. This means that a distress call will automatically transmit location using the new handhelds, all without leaving the helm station. This should be considered before purchasing any new marine radio equipment. Finally, the Digital Selective Calling system has largely been replaced by cellular telephones according to the USCG



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





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



Happy New Year to everyone. It took me a while, but I'm signed up for the Annual Meeting in Orlando. Nothing was easy to do on the USPS website. I finally ended up calling the USPS National Headquarters and enlisted the assistance of one the secretaries there. It even took her a while to figure out how get me signed up. So, come the first week of next month I'll be there to represent the AASPS. I'm not sure why in these economically troubled times that the powers to be would choose the most expensive place to stay. It seems to me that our resources could be better used. I will make a full report after the Annual Meeting.

I attended the Christmas Boat Parade of Lights in Cape Coral. Despite the cool temperatures there were over 100 boats in the parade. They also had live entertainment, food, and Santa Claus for the kids in the Four Freedoms Park, which was the staging area for the parade. I'm sending one picture along. Everybody was bundled up.



Cape Coral, Florida  
Christmas Parade of 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