

# The Porthole

September 2016



**United States Power Squadrons**  
*Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the friends*

Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron  
A unit of United States Power Squadrons in District 9

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

# Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron

General Meetings are usually held each month, Sept. thru June  
See page 3



Boating Education since 1965

51 YEARS SERVING  
THE BOATING PUBLIC



Visit our web site  
[www.aaspsq.org/](http://www.aaspsq.org/)

## CONTACTS

Commander: Ron Schwartz, SN, Life	734-769-3476	AAPSclasses@aol.com
Executive Officer:		
Administrative Officer: Lt/C Jeannine Buchanan	734-971-6589	BuchananRA@msn.com
Secretary: P/C Robert Buchanan, P	734-971-6589	BuchananRA@msn.com
Treasurer: Lt/C Marlene Barr	734-483-0839	mjb_120022535@hotmail.com
Assist. Treasurer: P/C John Barr, AP, Life	734-483-0839	JMBarr@BarrLawFirm.com
SEO: P/C Arthur Pinsak, SN, Life	734-973-0441	apnsharon@aol.com
Assist. SEO: P/C Robert Buchanan, P	734-971-6589	BuchananRA@msn.com
Vessel Safety Check:		
Public Relations Officer: P/C John Barr, AP, Life	734-483-0839	JMBarr@BarrLawFirm.com
Nominating: P/C Robert Buchanan, P	734-971-6589	BuchananRA@msn.com
Chaplain: P/C Arthur Pinsak, SN, Life	734-973-0441	apnsharon@aol.com
Historian: P/C Robert Buchanan, P	734-971-6589	BuchananRA@msn.com
Conference Coord.: Lt. Sharon A. Pinsak	734-973-0441	apnsharon@aol.com
Membership Chair: D/Lt/C Carolyn Knaggs, P	734-645-3503	cknaggs@reinhardtrealtors.co
Webmaster: Evrard (Freddy) Ohou		oevfred@umich.edu
Porthole Proofreader: Lt. Peggy Moller	734-761-1589	mmoller@umich.edu
Porthole Publisher/Distribution: Cdr. Ron Schwartz, SN, Life	734-769-3476	AAPSclasses@aol.com



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. Articles may be reprinted without permission, if credit is given to the author and to the original source. The Porthole is sent in color via e-mail, or via US mail in black and white.

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





**Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron  
Meeting 6 P. M. Monday 19 Sept. 2016  
Carlyle Grill 3660 Jackson Rd.  
Ann Arbor Michigan 48103  
Lat. 42° 17.1' N, Long. 83° 48.2' W**

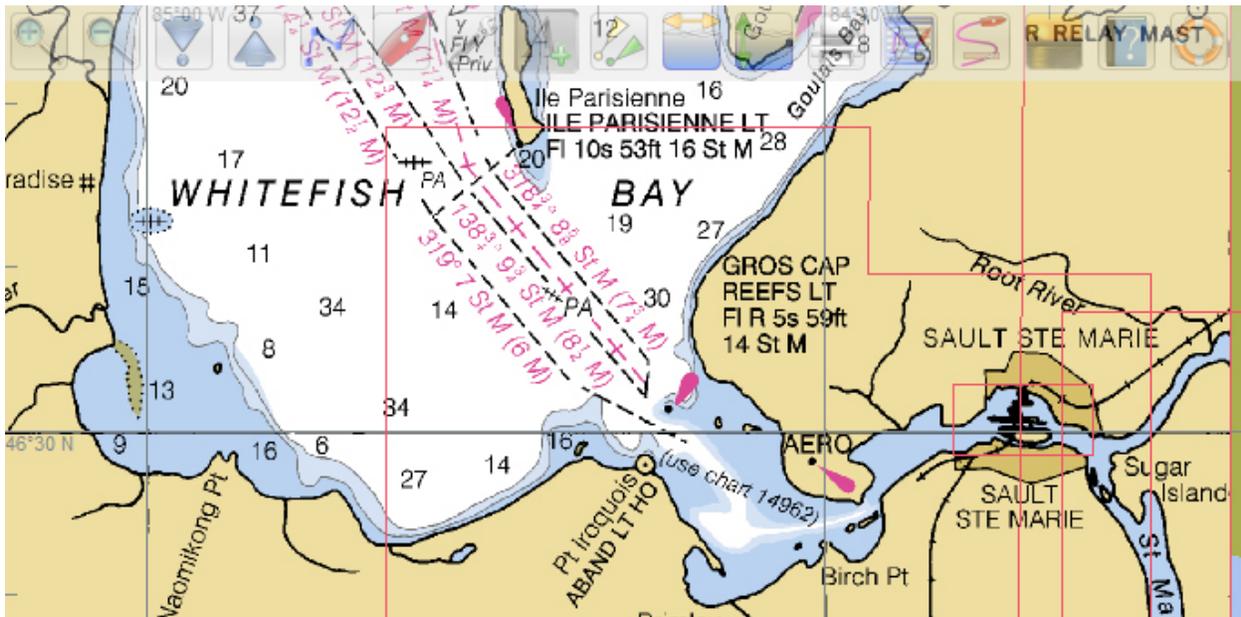
Sail and Power Boating Education

[www.aaspsq.org/](http://www.aaspsq.org/)

We will meet at the Carlyle Grill west of the Lighthouse Car Wash. Order from the menu and pay your own bill. Please call Jeannine Buchanan 734-971-6589, so we can have enough tables set up. Visit Carlyle Grill web site to see their menu. <http://www.carlylegrill.com/>



Our speaker, P/C Bob Buchanan, P, has not revealed the identity of the mysterious mariner, Roger Blough. This strange phantom must have precipitated some weird event while stalking the waters of his natural habitat. This means that you must attend the meeting to hear this dark, haunting nautical tale.



Whitefish Bay from free OpenCPN digital charts



## Commander's Message

Cdr. Ron Schwartz, SN



**Basic Boating Courses.** We are offering the Michigan DNR boating course and Boating Safety Certificate for free, then the USPS ABC charting course for \$45, starting Tuesday Sept. 20. See page 10 for information about boater education in Michigan.

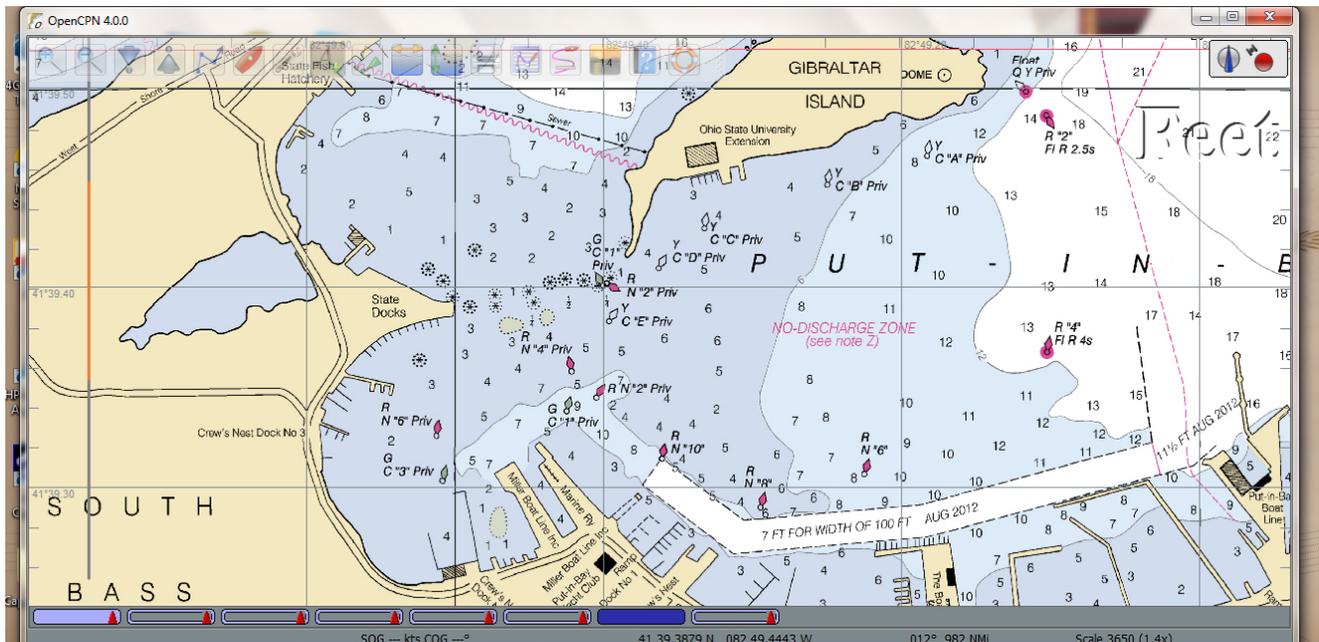
**Oak Island** . <http://www.oakislandmoneypit.com/> has the story of the Oak Island buried treasure and Captain Kidd. Oak island is 44° 30' 50" N, 64° 17' 40" W . Look at Google Earth pictures for an enchanting mystery.

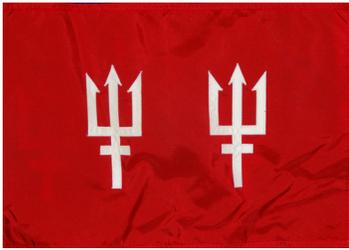
**Wild rice.** The September/October 2016 issue, page 16, of *Michigan History* magazine has a good article about wild rice in Michigan -- where it can be found and how to pick and process it. It grows in shallow water and is harvested in the fall when the leaves are turning color. Dredging and the timber industry - floating logs to the mill - have destroyed many wild rice beds. Large wild rice beds can still be found in Tawas Lake near East Tawas, and Lac Vieux Desert - 46.13°N 89.12°W - near the Michigan/Wisconsin border. Hand picked and processed rice costs about \$10 to \$12 a pound.

**Why a Ship is Called She;** This "analogy" was submitted by Lt Fred Devantier, SN. It was published in the Oyster Bar, Fisherman's Village in Punta Gorda, FL.

A Ship is called "she" because there is always a great deal of bustle around her; there is always a gang of men about. She has a waist and stays; it takes a lot of paint to keep her looking good. It's not the initial expense that breaks you, it is the upkeep, she can be all decked out. It takes an experienced man to handle her correctly; and without a man at the helm, she is absolutely uncontrollable. She shows her topsides, hides her bottom and when she comes into port, always heads toward the buoys.

**Part of the Putin Bay chart from OpenCPN.** The whole chart or any part of it can be viewed on your computer screen by adjusting position and magnification.





Lt/C Jeannine Buchanan, Administrative Officer, and P/C Bob Buchanan, P, Secretary



The Squadron Bridge is working on the fall meeting programs. We already have made our room reservation at the Carlyle for September 19th, October 17th, and November 21st. The November date should be discussed because this is Thanksgiving week. The date of our annual squadron Christmas Party can also be discussed.

Next we would welcome any suggestions for meeting speakers. Here is how it works. First, the squadron does not pay an honorarium but will invite the speaker and spouse/guest to be our guests for cocktails and dinner. We like to have the program duration be about 20 – 30 minutes. This leaves time for discussion of the topic. Finally we provide the projector and screen and the speaker may use their own laptop or our laptop. You can give AO Jeannine your suggestions at (734) 971-6589, or [buchananra@msn.com](mailto:buchananra@msn.com).

One highlight of our summer was spending a very warm summer day at a friend's cottage on the west side of Old Man River, the Mississippi. The cottage was directly on the Mississippi just above Lock #7 at LaCrosse, Wisconsin. We were able to locate tug and barge AIS signals on [marinetraffic.com](http://marinetraffic.com). The AIS signal gave location, origin, destination, and speed. Our handheld scanner allowed us to listen to the conversation between the captain and lockmaster. The first downbound tug was *Robin B. Ingram* (left to right). Notice the red buoy on the port side. Immediately after passing us, *Ingram* moved tightly against the western shore at the request of the lockmaster and stopped to allow 2 upbound tugs to pass. Bob tried to contact the captain on Channel 6 but suspected that he had gone below for lunch. The first upbound tug was the *Kelly Erickson* (right to left). The flags reflect the hot wind out of the south. Then *Jack Wofford* passed us; notice the green can buoy. Once clear, *Robin B. Ingram* warmed her engines and continued on down to the lock. We have 2 tips for traveling near a waterway; take your binoculars and scanner.

Tug *Robin B. Ingram* heading down the Mississippi River



Tug boats on the Mississippi River



Another upriver bound ship

Tug *Robin B. Ingram*  
waiting for other ships to pass



Tug *Kelly Erickson* heading  
up the Mississippi River

AASPS June Picnic Pictures at Argo Park



Luz Snyder and Sharen Pinsak



P/C Bob Buchanan, P

P/C Bob Snider

Luz Snider



P/C John, AP, Lt/C Marlene Barr, Lt/C Jeannine and P/C Bob Buchanan, P dance to the local Country Music pickup band.

## More Picnic photos



Freddy landing P/C Pinsak,SN



Lt/C Marlene Barr

Lt/C Jeannine Buchanan

Freddy Ohou



Lt/C Marlene Barr P/C JohnBarr, AP P/C Art Pinsak, SN P/C Buchanan, S Lt/C Jeannine Buchanan John Barr Jr.

## More Picnic photos



Our computer expert, Freddy Ohou, welcomes P/C Bob Buchanan, P. back to shore.  
Lt/C Jeannine Buchanan is observing



Luz and P/C Bob Snider, SN

### A Partial List of Events

DATE	SPONSOR	EVENT AND LOCATION
Sept. 19	AASPS	Meeting at Carlyle Grill 6 PM. See page 3.
Sept. 20	AASPS	ABC course starts at St. Joseph's Hospital classrooms
Oct. 16	BPS	Commanders Ball in Santia Hall, Keego Harbor; See below
Oct. 17	AASPS	Meeting at Carlyle Grill 6 PM. Bill Thomas: Erie Canal Trip
Oct. 28-30	D9	Fall conference. Grand Rapids, See last page.

In lieu of a Commander's Ball, Birmingham Power Squadron will have a "Music with the Commander" dinner and concert of Great Lakes themed songs written and performed by singer/songwriter Dan Hall on Sunday, October 16, 2016. Cocktails with cash bar will begin at 5:00 p.m. followed by dinner at 6:00 p.m. Music performed by Dan Hall and his band will be immediately following dinner. The location is Santia Hall, 1985 Cass Lake Road, Keego Harbor, MI 48320. The cost for dinner and music is \$30 per person. The dinner buffet will consist of roast beef, pasta, baked chicken, vegetable, potato, salad, breadsticks, coffee or tea. If you wish to attend just for the music, the cost is \$15. To make your reservations, call Commander Althea Doolittle, SN at 248-375-2513 or send an email with your name(s) and contact information to: Cdr@bpsd9.org Please indicate whether your reservation includes dinner. Casual dress, please.

MERIT MARKS: It is time to put together the MERIT MARK report for the 2016. Please send me a list of what you have done and how much time was spent in working for the Ann Arbor Sail & Power Squadron.

# Boater Education in Michigan

Michigan requires boaters born after July 1, 1996 to pass a boater exam and get a Boating Safety Certificate (BSC). <https://www.boat-ed.com/michigan/handbook/> for information.

<https://www.boat-ed.com/michigan/studyGuide/10102301> has a study guide. Courses vary from on-line courses to classroom courses, and combinations of both. [www.michigan.gov/boating](http://www.michigan.gov/boating) has more information.

There are 2 types of courses. 1) the Michigan DNR 8 hour course teaches the minimum information. 2) the United States Power Squadrons (USPS) Americas Boating Course (ABC) is a 16 hour course and teaches the minimum plus navigation, GPS, Charts, and digital charts.

The local sheriff's offices give the Michigan DNR 8 hour class and BSC. Prices are \$0 to \$10 depending on the location. To find a class in your area go to <http://www.dnr.state.mi.us/recnsearch/recnsrch.asp>

Michigan Department of Natural Resources  
Law Enforcement Division  
**BOATING SAFETY CERTIFICATE**

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Certificate Number **202533**

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

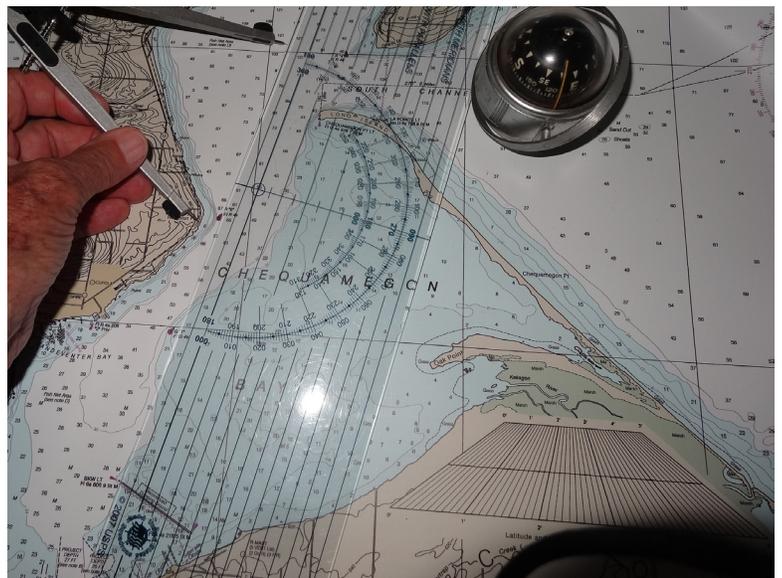
I certify that this student has successfully completed the Boating Safety Education Program as required. Issued under authority of Part 801 and Part 802 Act 451 of 1994 as amended. Failure to comply with the provisions of this Act is a violation of State Law.

Instructor Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor (print name) \_\_\_\_\_ Date Completed \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor Number \_\_\_\_\_

**NOT VALID UNLESS SIGNED BY INSTRUCTOR**



Coastguard Auxillary offers a 6 hour course for \$30 in White Lake Michigan

[http://wow.uscgaux.info/pe\\_class\\_flyer.php?unit=NAT&course=18268](http://wow.uscgaux.info/pe_class_flyer.php?unit=NAT&course=18268)

They also offer advanced courses <http://www.cgaux.org/boatinged/>

USPS offers an online ABC course and certificate for \$30.

<http://www.americasboatingcourse.com/?gclid=COi3yf66t6YCFQFM5QodBTvEHQ>

USPS local squadrons offer the ABC course in classrooms. Locate a class at

<http://www.usps.org/cgi-bin-nat/eddept/800/cfindx.cgi?C>

Ann Arbor Sail and Power Squadron is offering the Michigan DNR 8 hour Basic Boating Course and certificate for free, and then the ABC course with OpenCPN charts for \$45 (\$26) for members, in a classroom starting September 20. Call me to register. 734-769-3476.

# USPS D9 2016 Fall Conference



## Conference Registration Form

United States Power Squadrons - District 9 - Fall Conference 28 - 30 October 2016

Rank Last Name First Name Grade

Squadron \_\_\_\_\_ Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Check if a **First Timer** at a district conference  No Meals, Friday hospitality registration only

Lunch **\$24.00** each

\_\_\_ Braised Top Round w/dessert

\_\_\_ Chicken Parmigiana w/dessert

\_\_\_ Special Diet Specify \_\_\_\_\_

Dinner **\$47.00** each

Entertainment Provided by: **The Murder Mystery Co.**

\_\_\_ Artichoke & Spinach Chicken

\_\_\_ Citrus Salmon

\_\_\_ Flank Steak

\_\_\_ Special Diet Specify \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Reservations for meals must be received by 21 Oct 2016

**!! Notice !! Any reservation received after this date will not be honored and your check will be returned.**

Questions? Contact Mike Rachuk [mike.rachuk@gmail.com](mailto:mike.rachuk@gmail.com) 586-876-5818

Please Make Checks Payable To:  
USPS District 9

Mail Check & Registration to:

Dave Dudek  
35801 Schmid Dr  
New Baltimore, MI 48047



DoubleTree

Grand Rapids Airport

Room Rate **\$105.00**

### Notes !

- An e-mail confirmation will be sent to the address you provided. If you don't receive a confirmation after 5 days, please contact Mike Rachuk (586-876-5818)
- The only meal tickets available after the cut-off date (21 Oct) will be unclaimed tickets or tickets turned in for resale.
- Any reservation received after the cut-off date (21 Oct) will be returned.
- The cut-off date (21 Oct) only applies to meal reservations.

**Hospitality Rooms Wrist Band:** Wrist bands will be distributed at the registration table for security reasons during Friday night hospitality tour. Please register even if you do not want any meal tickets. Check box above for no meals if applicable.

**Hospitality Rooms Reservations:** All hospitality room must be reserved through District 9. Contact Mike Rachuk [mike.rachuk@gmail.com](mailto:mike.rachuk@gmail.com) 586-876-5818 Rooms at \$105.00 plus one time furniture removal fee of \$45.00. Each room will have the bed removed and 2 tables, and 5 chairs will be provided.

Cut-Off Date for Hospitality Rooms **1 Oct 2016**

**Rooms Reservations:** Reserve on or before **8 Oct 2016** Call 616-957-0100  
DoubleTree group rate reservation Link ==>> <http://tinyurl.com/D9conference-F2016>