





SKOKIE VALLEY SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON

DISTRICT 20

Membership Newsletter - Volume 25 Issue 4

Running Lights

April 2025

America's Boating Club North Shore Change of Watch Sunday 6 April 1-4 PM



Dover Straits
890 E. US Highway 45
Mundelein, IL 60060
www.doverstraits.com

A special dinner to celebrate
the past year and thank our
Bridge Officers



United States Power Squadrons is America's Boating Club®



A MESSAGE FROM OUR COMMANDER

First things first, Skokie Valley Power Squadron, YOU RULE.

For those who attended the D20 Spring Conference, I think it is safe to say, we showed everyone that when Skokie Valley says we'll do something, we are all in. I can't thank everyone enough, but I'm going to try. Thanks to Susan and Tony Palazzo for handling registration, Dave and Sue Anthony for hosting our hospitality room and running the games on Friday night, Deb Adam and Sue Anthony for making the lunch and dinner centerpieces; Deb Adam, Karen D'Amico, Dan Luczak, Lenore & LeRoy Stevens, and Ron Zingler for playing characters in our murder mystery on Friday night; Joanne Zingler for manning the Friendship Room (at 7am); Ron & Joanne Zingler for working with the Keynote speaker; Tony Palazzo and Chuck Burger for taking pictures; and Karen D'Amico for turning a party game into a Friday night of murder and mystique. There were many more members that helped during the planning stages, took time to meet at our house and helped in making arrangements with the Holiday Inn in Elgin. Special thanks to Christine and Larry March for creating our shirts.

The Friday night event was a huge success; there was a lot to do and it kept everyone moving. My nieces and nephews that were part of the murder mystery had a great time entertaining and meeting everyone. Check out the pictures to see who solved the murder and all that were dressed for the occasion. We had many visit the hospitality suites afterwards, hosted by Skokie Valley and Waukegan Power Squadron.

Saturday morning Educational Meeting brought news of upcoming classes / seminars and the possible transitions to eBooks. D/C (now I/P/D/C Jesse Bowen) spoke of topics including iMIS, insurance, membership and the Governing Board meeting in September. V/C Mike Wiedel spoke about the Marine SEO programs and new VSC forms. The keynote speaker Ron Luttrell gave a great presentation sharing pictures and history of various lighthouses and shipwrecks around the Great Lakes.

The afternoon business meeting was conducted with reports from Squadron Commanders on hand, reports from the District 20 departments and finally the elections of the new D20 Bridge. Skokie Valley was present the National Distinctive Communicator Award for the "Running Lights" (editor Karen D'Amico) and for our Website (wed master Richard Davidson). We also received a 2024 Growth Award (Honorable Mention) from National.

I appreciate everyone staying for the Change of Watch Saturday Night. I spoke about my goals for D20 like improving communication between squadrons, collaboration on events and activities, and helping each other with education and other matters. I got a little emotional when it was time to thank the host squadron, so I'll just say that everyone knows my favorite squadron and how much I appreciate all your support.

I'm looking forward to our Change of Watch coming up on 06 April. With all that Skokie Valley has been doing for the District 20 Spring Conference, it will be nice to have a very simple meeting and meal with my friends. We are going back to Dover Straits in Mundelein, IL and I really hope to see you there.

—Cdr. Frank D'Amico, AP



America's Boating Club North Shore 2024-2025 Bridge

COMMANDER

Cdr Frank D'Amico, AP 224-238-7372

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

P/C Tony Palazzo, AP 630-347-6586

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

P/C Ron Zingler, AP-IN 847-634-3806

SECRETARY

P/D/C Karen D'Amico, AP 224-238-7372

TREASURER

Lt/C Sue Anthony, P 224-402-3107

EDUCATION OFFICER

P/D/C Chuck Burger, SN 847-322-0828

ASSISTANT EDUCATION OFFICER

1st Lt Joe Paldo, P 847-255-9158

IMMEDIATE PAST COMMANDER

P/C Tony Palazzo, AP 630-347-6586

ELECTED MEMBERS AT LARGE

Lt Ray Adam, S 630-347-3495

Lt Dave Anthony, P 224-402-3107

Lt Gail Sidman, AP 847-726-7309

America's Boating Club®
and logo are trademarks
of the United States Power
Squadrons®





Mark Your Calendar



April 2025

2	Wed	Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900	Zoom meeting - page 8
6	Sun	Change of Watch Dinner	Dover Straits - page 9
15	Sat	Publication Deadline—Running Lights	Karen D'Amico (224-238-7372)

May 2025

7	Wed	Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900	Zoom meeting - page 8
15	Thus	Publication Deadline—Running Lights	Karen D'Amico (224-238-7372)
18	Sun	Member Dinner Meeting	Demetri's Greek Restaurant (below)
31	Sat	North Point Fishing Derby & Sundowner	North Point Marina - page 6

Member Dinner Meeting Sunday May 18, 2025 4 PM

Demetri's Greek Restaurant

660 Lake Cook Road
Deerfield, IL 60015
<https://demetrisingreek.com>



Demetri's offers authentic and classic Greek cuisine. Family owned for over 21 years, they offer fresh, locally sourced ingredients. We have a private room for the meeting, so come for cocktails and socialize before dinner.

Cocktails at 4 PM
Dinner at 5 PM

We will order from the menu

**RSVP to Ron Zingler by
May 11th**

Call 847-634-3806 or
zingleron@comcast.net



Bowline

Kick off National Safe Boating Week with a special hands on refresher in knot tying by SEO Chuck Burger and Jim Soyka.

D20 Spring Conference



Tony & Susan Palazzo



Dave & Sue Anthony



Don & Gail Sidman



Ray & Deb Adam



Frank D'Amico & Dan Luczak



Dan & Chris Luczak

Wild West Murder Mystery



Frank D'Amico's Troupe



Ron Zingler & Dan Luczak



Ray & Deb Adam



LeRoy & Lenore Stevens



Dan Luczak, LeRoy Stevens, Ron Zingler, & Deb Adam



Sue & Dave Anthony



Dave Anthony ran the Texas Hold'em Game



Chris & Dan Luczak



Gary Vinzant correctly guesses the murderer and wins!



Ron Zingler, Gail Sidman, Sue Anthony, Joanne Zingler

Mary Merrel



Frank & Karen D'Amico



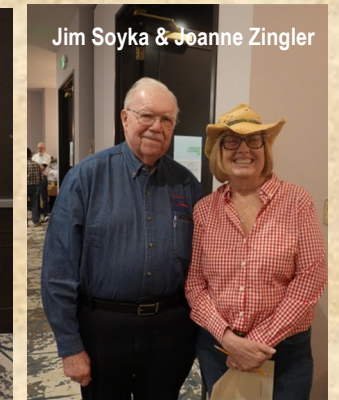
Natalie Witty & Frank D'Amico



Ron Dziagwa



Ron Zingler & Lenore Stevens



Jim Soyka & Joanne Zingler

Thanks to Tony Palazzo for taking these pictures all weekend!

Past members
Pat Antoni,
and Cindy &
Jim Geske
came up from
Tampa for the
Conference.
Pictured here
with Ron &
Joanne Zingler
at the Friday
Night party.



Dave Anthony, Ron Zingler, Jim Soyka, Dan Luczak



Enjoying the
Friendship Room

Thanks to
Sue Anthony
& Deb Adam
for making
the lunch
and dinner
centerpieces!



Chris Luczak & Sue Anthony



Tony & Susan Palazo



Skokie receives 2024 Growth
Award honorable mention



Skokie receives Distinctive Communicator
Award for Website & Publication



Joanne Zingler & Anita
Donkers



Don & Gail Sidman



Frank D'Amico sworn in as
District Commander



Ray & Deb Adam



Frank & Karen D'Amico



Sue & Dave
Anthony



Lenore & LeRoy Stevens



Ron & Joanne Zingler



Dan & Chris Luczak



Deb Adam, Gary Vinzant



Pat Antoni, Cindy & Jim Geske



Jim Soyka, Joe & Lori Ratajczak



Bonni Breen &
Rich Davidson



Tony Palazzo &
Frank D'Amico



Karen D'Amico
& Sue Anthony



Dave Anthony
& Ray Adam



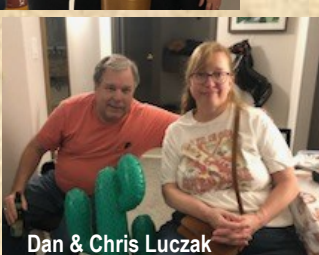
LeRoy & Lenore
Stevens



Rich Davidson, Ron Dziagwa,
Clint Rahn, Don Sidman



Dan & Chris Luczak



Chris Luczak
& Deb Adam



Chuck
Burger



Gail Sidman, Pat Antoni, Natalie Witty, Cindy Geske



Thanks to Deb Adam for taking the cactus pictures in the hospitality suite!



SVPS 2025 Event & Cruising Schedule



When	Event	Location	Host
Sunday April 6th	SVPS Change of Watch	Dover Straits, Mundelein	Frank D'Amico
Sunday May 18th	Dinner Meeting	Demetris, Deerfield	Ron Zingler
Saturday May 31st	Lake Michigan Fishing Derby & North Point Sundowner	North Point Marina	Dave & Sue Anthony
July 2-6	Summerfest Milwaukee Cruise	McKinley Harbor, Milwaukee WI 414-273-5224	Ron Zingler
TBD	Lake Michigan Summer Cruise	TBD	
July 19-20	Milwaukee Air and Water	McKinley Harbor	Info Only
August 23	D20 Cruise & Rendezvous	TBA	District 20
September 2-7	America's Boating Club Fall Governing Board Meeting	Grand Rapids, MI	National Meeting
September 21st	Dinner Meeting	Reflections	Ron Zingler
Sunday October 19th	Lake Geneva Boat Cruise Tour— Sunday Brunch	Lake Geneva, WI	Frank D'Amico
October 25	District 20 Fall Conference	TBD	District 20
Sunday November 9th	Anniversary Dinner	Dover Straits	Ron Zingler
Sunday December 7th	Commanders Holiday Party	Hoffman Estates	Frank D'Amico

North Point Sundowner Saturday May 31 *After the Fishing Derby*



*Bring your own beverages
and a chair for the bonfire*



Gather in the outdoor BBQ area by Q dock at 5:00 PM. We will order pizza and salad for everyone present.

Later our Fire Master Tony Palazzo will light the bonfire!

Contact Dave or Sue with questions
dave-sue-anthony@comcast.net

Lockport Lock Update from the desk of P/D/C Dennis McNamara, JN

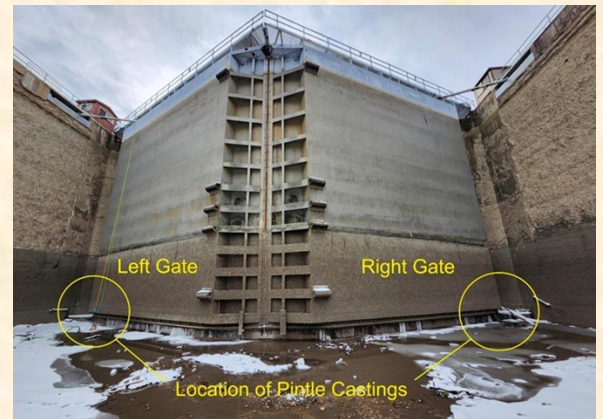
During a recent inspection at Lockport Lock, USACE staff discovered severe cracking in the lower miter gates. The Lock, currently closed until March 25th for upper lift gate replacement, will now likely stay closed until late April to early May due to the additional repairs required.

A team of experts from Rock Island District, Chicago District, and other partners, are working on a temporary fix to get the lock back in service. However, permanent repairs require replacing the original pintle castings, which will take time to manufacture. The current pintle castings are from the mid-1980's gate replacement. A similar, less severe, issue was discovered and repaired in 2019. Engineers are working to identify a cause.

Key Points:

- ⇒ Temporary repair may extend closure by 4-6 weeks.
- ⇒ Full repair requires pulling gates, welding new castings, and a second closure later this year.
- ⇒ Experts are investigating all avenues to source parts and reduce further stress on components.
- ⇒ Funding and crane availability are also key factors in the repair timeline.

Note: to check on lock status, use the following link to access the US Army Corp of Engineers Notices to Navigation Interests: [Navigational Notices – Home](#) page.



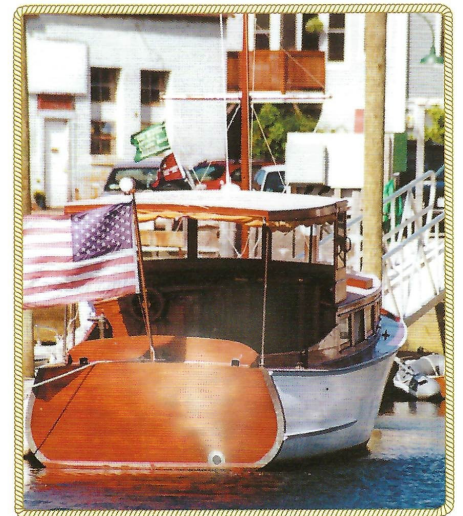
May Anniversaries

Chris & Dan Luczak	2024	1 yrs
Susan & Tony Palazzo	2001	21 yrs
Sowah Anyetei	2001	24 yrs
Don & Gail Sidman	2001	24 yrs
Judy Sommerfeld	1996	29 yrs
Frank D'Amico	1990	33 yrs
Robert Frankenbush	1973	53 yrs

Congratulations on reaching another milestone with the squadron. We appreciate your support!

Cdr Frank D'Amico, AP

CAPTAIN AHAB'S QUIZ



A diesel engine with a faulty injector (insufficient fuel) or poor compression (fuel not igniting) will produce: **white, gray, black or blue** smoke from exhaust?

(see answer on back page)

Tom Clark, AP, Contributing Editor
Courtesy of Perchant Publishing

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

We really enjoyed the production at the Marriott Theatre this month. Here is part of our group during intermission. Thanks for Dave & Sue Anthony for arranging the event!



Dave & Sue Anthony, with sister-in-law Debbie



Don & Gail Sidman



Ron Zingler, Lorri Zwang

Ron Zingler, Lorri & Stuart Zwang

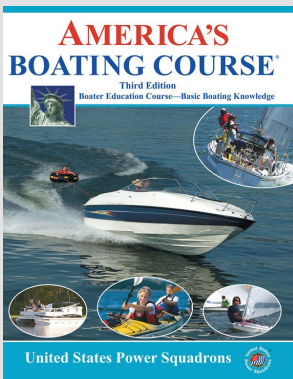


Rich Davidson, Bonni Breen

After the play, we went to Half Day Brewing Company down the street for a brew & a bite to eat.



Ray & Deb Adam



Skokie Valley will offer America's Boating Course Tuesdays and Thursdays, April 29—May 15 6:30-9:00 PM at Mt. Prospect Police Station

This is the course every new boater should take before going to the water. It is also a good course for experienced boaters who could use some refinement of skills with channel markers, docking, tying knots, rules of the road and essential safety procedures.

Our course meets the requirement for a state boat license or operator certificate. A valid Boating Safety Certificate accepted by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources is required for persons born on or after January 1, 1998 to operate a vessel powered by more than 10 horsepower. Also many insurance companies will give a discount on boat insurance to those who have passed our course.

If you know someone interested, contact our SEO Chuck Burger at chucknav1@aol.com

Team North Shore

Executive Committee Meeting: **April 2 at 7:00 pm Central**

Zoom Meeting ID: **868 7111 5662**, Passcode: **485679**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86871115662?pwd=kf8CPv4F2vg7Kf17AqutbO2Vjm8Ns6.1>

Dial by your location: +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

One tap mobile: +13126266799,,86871115662#,,,,*485679# US (Chicago)

America's Boating Club North Shore Change of Watch Sunday April 6th



Dover Straits
890 E. US Highway 45
Mundelein, IL 60060
www.doverstraits.com

Join us for the 2025 Change of Watch
as we celebrate the events of
the past year and swear in our
Bridge Officers for the coming year

Cocktails at 1PM; Dinner at 2 PM

We will order from the menu, separate checks



RSVP to Frank D'Amico
by Tuesday April 1st
fdamico@ameritech.net
or 224-238-7372

Richard J. Calfa

(847) 658-5700
Fax: (847) 658-5705
E-Mail: richard@calfaforins.com

CALFA FOR INSURANCE

1134 N. Main Street
Algonquin, IL 60102



66/19

**Promotional Products,
Embroidery, Screenprint and more!**

- ★ Corporate Events, Golf Tournaments
- ★ Personalized apparel, bags, and more
- ★ For all your promotional needs!
- ★ Fresh Ideas to Promote Your event or Company
- ★ Mention this ad for 10% off first order

kanizzle.com
Tell Your Story

christine@kanizzle.com

Running Lights

Skokie Valley Sail and Power Squadron

FROM:

P/D/C Karen D'Amico, AP
1240 Bison Lane
Hoffman Estates, IL 60192

TO:

FIRST CLASS MAIL



Be sure to visit our websites:

Skokie Valley Sail & Power Squadron:
www.skokievalleypowersquadron.org

District 20: www.uspsd20Boating.org

USPS: www.AmericasBoatingClub.org



Captain Ahab answer:

White smoke



Editor and Publisher

P/D/C Karen D'Amico, AP
RunningLightsEditor@gmail.com

Contributing Editors

P/C Ron Zingler, AP
Joanne Zingler, AP
Stuart Zwang, SN

Photographers

P/C Richard Calfa, N
P/C Ron Zingler, AP

Production Staff

P/C Frank D'Amico, AP

