





SKOKIE VALLEY SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON

DISTRICT 20

Membership Newsletter - Volume 24 Issue 10

Running Lights

October 2024

Fall Color Cruise on the Grand Belle of Geneva
Sunday Brunch: October 20, 2024



Lake Geneva Cruise Line: Lake Geneva Boat Tours in Wisconsin (cruiselakegeneva.com)

United States Power Squadrons is America's Boating Club®



A MESSAGE FROM OUR COMMANDER

October is here and so is Fall (it actually started in September, but who's counting). Boats are being hauled out, winter preparation started, as well as our general dinner meetings. We just had a great dinner at Maggiano's in Vernon Hills with over 20 members. The food was good, the meeting was short (very), and the company was outstanding. Some of us will miss the feeling of being out on the water, but good food, drink and friends can help pass the winter.

Karen and I attended the Fall Governing Board in Pittsburgh PA. Even though we had to cut our trip short due to family obligations, we both learned a lot from the meetings and workshops we attended. We also enjoyed the sights around Station Square, rode the 2 inclines (funiculars railways) and viewed the rivers from the upper streets on Coal Hill.

Marine SEO, the new marketing agency National is using to help standardize and improve our exposure, held a few meetings to explain what they wish to accomplish. Much of the discussion revolved around an email sent to Squadron Commanders from National requesting Facebook administrative rights be granted to Marine SEO. After their presentation and clarification, I feel this would be beneficial to Skokie Valley and will be discussing it at our next Executive Meeting. If you are interested in hearing more about it, use the link in the Running Lights to join us on Wednesday.

During the DC/DXO meeting, I learned more about iMIS and what it can do. Squadron members can view and update personal information, pay dues, view current and past jobs, past courses, and view other members in their squadrons. There is even a District & Squadron events calendar that will be useful once populated. There is some information only for Bridge Officers, but I would highly recommend exploring this system. Give it a try. The link to the member portal is <https://portal.americasboatingclub.org>. Note the Information Center is still available on the United States Power Squadron website, but the data is no longer current.

In October our Educational Officer, Chuck Burger, is starting our next America's Boating Course. It is scheduled Oct 1st through Oct 17th, with classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The classes will again be held at the Mt. Prospect Police Station. Thank you Chuck and the instructors, for all your hard work to teach our boating course. Also congratulations to Chuck for his newly elected position to Staff Commander.

On October 20th, we also have the Lake Geneva Brunch Cruise scheduled. Right now we have 14 people planning to attend and tickets are still available for that date. Information and details are in this edition. I am looking forward to seeing the changes in the fall colors. Hope to see you there.

Lastly, the D20 Fall Educational Conference will be held at the Marriott Pere Marquette in Peoria, IL on October 25th and 26th. This is the conference where we celebrate our educational achievements across the District. Room reservations must be made by 11 October and lunch choices by 18 October. Information on the agenda and Saturday night activity can be found in the Trident Extra and the Running Lights. We will also hold the October general member meeting in our hospitality suite on Friday night.

I hope to see everyone at some of these October activities.

—Cdr. Frank D'Amico, AP



America's Boating Club North Shore 2023-2024 Bridge

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

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ELECTED MEMBERS AT LARGE

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Lt Dave Anthony, P 224-402-3107

Lt Gail Sidman, AP 847-726-7309

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Mark Your Calendar



October 2024

2	Wed	Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900	Zoom meeting - page 7
15	Tues	Publication Deadline—Running Lights	Karen D'Amico (224-238-7372)
20	Sun	Lake Geneva Bruch Buffet Cruise	Lake Geneva, WI - page 8
25-26	Fri-Sat	D20 Fall Conference & Oct General Meeting	Pere Marquette Hotel, Peoria, IL - page 5

November 2024

6	Wed	Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900	Zoom meeting - page 7
10	Sun	Member Dinner Meeting	Dover Straits, Mundelein - below
13	Wed	Cruise Planning Meeting	Ron Zingler (847-634-3806) - page 6
15	Fri	Publication Deadline—Running Lights	Karen D'Amico (224-238-7372)

November Anniversary Meeting

Sunday 10 November

2 PM Cocktails; 3 PM Dinner



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



Our Anniversary dinner meeting will take us to the shores of Dover Straits in Mundelein. Better known for their fresh fish, they also serve a variety of American fare.

We will order from the extensive menu
 cash bar and separate checks



RSVP to Ron Zingler
by November 1st
zingleron@comcast.net
847.634.3806

September General Member Meeting at Maggiano's



Dave Anthony, Gail Sidman, Chuck Burger



Sue Anthony, Joe & Lori Ratajczak



Ray Adam, Dan Luzcak



Don Sidman & Rich Barta



Nancy Sibrava-Koenen, Ron & Joanne Zingler



Karen & Frank D'Amico



Ron Dziagwa



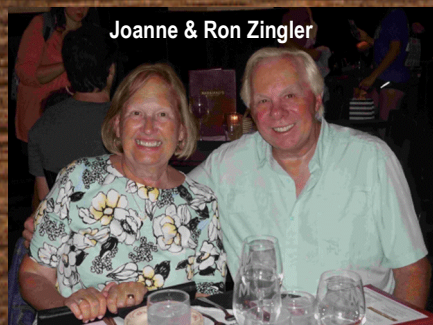
Dan & Chris Luzcak



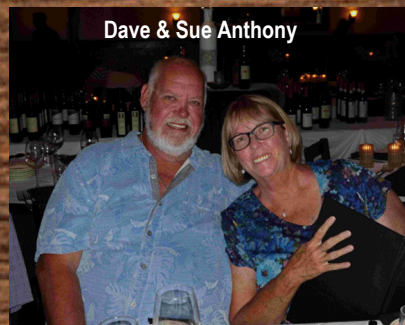
Deb & Ray Adam



Joe Paldo & Rich Barta



Joanne & Ron Zingler



Dave & Sue Anthony



Rich Davidson & Bonni Breen



Karen & Frank D'Amico



Joe & Lori Ratajczak



Chuck Burger & Nancy Sibrava-Koenen



DISTRICT 20 FALL CONFERENCE & EDUCATIONAL AWARDS LUNCHEON 25 - 26 October 2024

**Peoria Marriott Pere Marquette
501 Main Street, Peoria, IL**

Room Rates: King \$156 per night, Doubles Standard \$156 per night. Room block is limited.

Make reservations by 11 October at: [Reservation-Link \(marriott.com\)](https://marriott.com)

Rank	Name	Grade	Squadron	Email	Telephone
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Lunch: Price \$30 per person

_____ Chicken salad sandwich-chicken salad served with lettuce and tomato on fresh wheat bread

_____ Tuna salad sandwich-tuna salad served with lettuce and tomato on fresh wheat bread

_____ Turkey Club wrap -turkey, cheddar, lettuce, tomato and mayonnaise wrapped in a flour tortilla

_____ Open face roast beef-braised beef, mashed potatoes and gravy served over Texas toast

No. Attending Total

_____ x \$30 = \$ _____

****I made reservations for Killer Halloween Murder/
Mystery dinner # attending _____**

Make checks payable to: USPS District 20

Registration and check **must be sent by 18**

October to: Bryan Hunt, AP
1818 Park West Drive
Normal, IL 61761

Schedule of Events

Friday 25 October:

1500-1800 Registration
1700-2000 Meet/Greet in Lobby Bar (cash bar)
2000-2230 Hospitality Suites

Saturday 26 October:

0800-0900 Registration/Coffee
0900-0950 Scott Harman-Refresher Training
1000-1020 Cdr Jesse Bowen-update from National
1020-1130 Keynote Speaker
1200-1315 Education Awards Luncheon
1315-1330 Verification of Delegates
1330-1530 Spring Conference
1730-2100 Killer Halloween Murder/Dinner

[Killer Halloween Party Murder Mystery Dinner
Tickets, Sat, Oct 26, 2024 at 5:30 PM | Eventbrite](#)

A buffet dinner murder mystery, Saturday, Oct. 26 at 5:30pm. Cost is \$45 pp. When ordering tickets mention you are a part of the "America's Boating Club".

See page 9 of Running Lights for more details.

Dress Code:

Friday night: Casual
Saturday: Uniform G (short sleeved shirt, no tie)
or suitable business casual attire



SVPS 2024 Event & Cruising Schedule



When	Event	Location	Host
Sunday October 20th	Lake Geneva Boat Cruise Tour— Sunday Brunch	Lake Geneva, WI	Frank D'Amico
Fri-Sat October 25-26	District 20 Fall Conference	Pere Marquette Hotel, Peoria	District 20
Sunday November 10th	Anniversary Dinner	Dover Straits, Mundelein	Ron Zingler
Sunday December 8th	Commanders Holiday Party	Hoffman Estates	Frank D'Amico

October Anniversaries

Catherine Westphal	2007	18 yrs
Marilyn Calfa	2003	22 yrs
Carol Cleave	1982	44 yrs

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

Cdr Frank D'Amico, AP

2025 Cruise Season Planning Meeting Wednesday November 13 at 7 PM



All are welcome to attend! Bring your ideas to plan fun events for next year!

Hosted by Ron & Joanne Zingler
1307 Green Knolls Drive, Buffalo Grove, 60089

Download **America's Boating Club** mobile app by clicking the link below. It's a great resource for everything we teach in America's Boating Course right in your hand. It has an easy feature to quickly send a float plan to friends and family, whether on the water or taking a road trip.

NEW

America's Boating Club FREE Mobile App For Your Phone or Tablet

Your Single Information Source
for a Great Day on the Water

Nautical Reference Information,
Maintenance Records, Float Plans,
Weather, Radar, Tides and Currents,
and much, much more.

DOWNLOAD NOW!

AmericasBoatingClub.org
Apple Store
Google Play Store



CAPTAIN AHAB'S QUIZ



BOAT RETRIEVAL

1. Back down the trailer until the tops of the finders are awash.
2. Maneuver the boat to the trailer slowly, and line up with the center of the trailer.
3. Power up on the trailer or winch it on.
4. Connect the winch line hook to the bow eye.
5. Raise the motor.
6. Pull the boat/trailer off the ramp.
7. Follow the pre-trailering procedure.

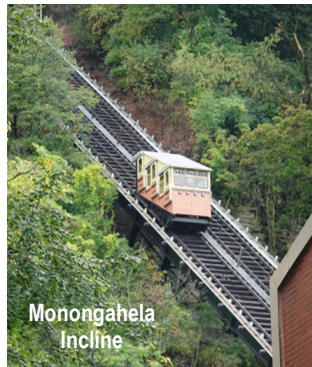
It's the end of a busy day at the ramp; everybody is waiting and watching every move you make. What is the most significant factor in maneuvering the boat perfectly onto the trailer on the first try: ____ and ____.

(see answer on back page)

Tom Clark, AP, Contributing Editor
Courtesy of Perchant Publishing



Fall Governing Board
September 24 - 29, 2024
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



Monongahela Incline



Monongahela River

USPS Governing Board meeting in Pittsburgh— Frank and I arrived on Wednesday Sept 25. We had some free time, so we took a ride up the Monongahela Incline which was behind our hotel. It was originally built in 1870 to transport workers to their homes atop the steep hill of Mount Washington, known as Coal Hill. It has since been renovated and is one of only two remaining inclines in Pittsburgh. At the top, there are a number of shops and restaurants. We walked along the scenic Grandview Ave overlooking the Monongahela River. We walked about 1.5 miles to the point where the Monongahela, Allegheny and Ohio Rivers converge, which offered great views of the many bridges of Pittsburgh. We had lunch at Steel Mill Saloon and toured the machinery of the Duquesne Incline, which opened to passengers in 1877. We rode this down to the river and made our way back to our hotel. Wednesday evening



Frank & Karen D'Amico

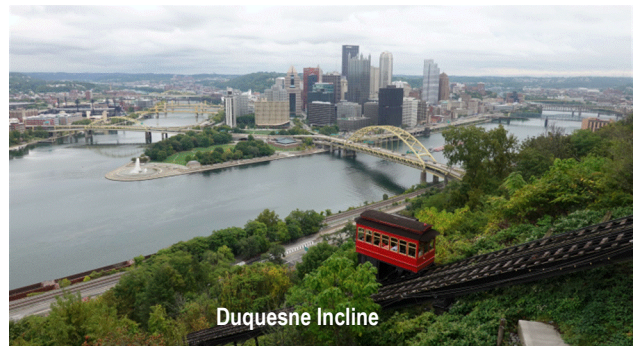
we attended the Welcome Dinner at the hotel overlooking the river.

Thursday Frank attended the D/C meeting, so Cindy Geske and I joined a tour of the Carnegie Museum of Natural History. That afternoon we also attended an orientation for the new iMIS member portal.

We learned a lot about the current capabilities for managing our members. The team at Headquarters is still working out the bugs and they have a lot to do to complete the migration. The current status is [iMIS Update \(usps.org\)](https://usps.org).

Thursday evening, the National Meetings Committee arranged a Dinner and Comedy Show at the hotel with comedian David Kaye. Afterwards, our D/C Jessie Bowen invited all the D20 members up to his hospitality room, including our honorary D20 members Pat Antoni and Cindy Geske.

The agenda Friday offered many open committee meetings sharing the latest news around our Educational programs, Safety/VSC, Marketing and Membership. I attended several of the meetings with the new Marketing agency, Marine SEO. Unfortunately, Frank and I had to change our plans to leave Friday afternoon, so we missed the District Hospitality suites in the evening and the Governing Board meeting on Saturday. Even though it was a short trip, we still learned a lot and enjoyed seeing our friends from other Squadrons around the country.



Duquesne Incline



Ohio River



Karen D'Amico & Natalie Witty



Frank D'Amico, Jesse Bowen & Chuck Burger



Cindy Geske & Pat Antoni



Jesse Bowen, Joan Eichorst

Mike & Ellen Ludtke, Natalie Witty

Team North Shore

Executive Committee Meeting: Oct 6 at 7:00 pm Central

Zoom Meeting ID: 875 8578 5751, Passcode: 949310

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87585785751?pwd=6CPnl7nwsK6PHoBnfQd8zhJOQAso4g.1>

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

One tap mobile: +13126266799,,87585785751#,,,,*949310# US (Chicago)



Lake Geneva Fall Colors Cruise

Sunday, October 20, 2024

11:00 AM - 1:15 PM

On the Grand Belle of Geneva enjoy a delicious brunch buffet during a narrated, two-hour boat cruise around the entire lake.



Cost is \$68 per person or \$66 for seniors 65+, plus tax and 18% gratuity. Includes narrated cruise, brunch buffet, and full cash bar available on board.

Book early before they sell out! We reserved a group on the main level, which is enclosed. Call 800-558-5911 or use the link below to purchase a ticket for the Sunday Brunch Buffet cruise.

<https://www.cruiselakegeneva.com/public-tours/sunday-brunch-buffet/>
When making your reservation, ask to "seat with Karen D'Amico"

We will meet at the Riviera Docks in downtown Lake Geneva 10:30 am.

Boarding begins at 10:45 am.

Riviera Docks: 812 Wrigley Drive,
Lake Geneva, Wisconsin

Paid parking is available via metered kiosks in the downtown area and there are two free lots. Click here for information.

<https://www.cruiselakegeneva.com/parking-directions/>

RSVP to Frank & Karen D'Amico,
224-238-7372 or
kdamico@ameritech.net

SUNDAY BRUNCH BUFFET CRUISE MENU

Scrambled Eggs with Shredded Cheese and Salsa

Vegetable Quiche

Chicken Breakfast Sausage

Sliced Ham

Hashbrown Casserole

Creamy Pepper Gravy with Buttermilk Biscuits

Mixed Green Salad with Ranch and Balsamic Vinaigrette

Cheese Blintzes with Fruit Sauce

Belgian Waffles

Fresh Fruit

Scones, Donut Holes, Mini Danishes, and Kringle

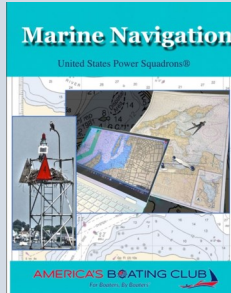
Granola, Yogurt, and Berry Parfait

Selection of Sweets

Students Wanted! Piloting: Marine Navigation Course

We have 2 students interested in taking the member course on Piloting, now called Marine Navigation. We would like to have at least 2 more students to make the course engaging and interactive. If you are interested, please contact Chuck Burger at (847) 322-0828 or email chucknav1@aol.com.

Marine Navigation is the first course in the sequence of USPS courses on navigation, covering the basics of coastal and inland navigation. It focuses on navigation on recreational boats and embraces GPS as a primary navigation tool while covering enough of traditional techniques so the student will be able to find his/her way even if their GPS fails. The course includes in-class exercises, developing the student's skills through hands-on practice and learning. Nine classes of two hours each normally are scheduled for presentation of this course. Students have seven days to complete the open book exam.



Course topics include:

- Charts and their interpretation
- Navigation aids pointing to safe water
- Plotting courses and determining direction and distance
- The mariner's compass and converting between True and Magnetic
- Use of GPS – typical GPS displays and information they provide, setting up waypoints and routes, staying on a GPS route.
- Pre-planning safe courses and entering them into the GPS
- Monitoring progress and determining position by both GPS and traditional techniques such as bearings and dead reckoning
- The "Seaman's Eye" – simple skills for checking that one is on course.

**BURGER BARGE &
Die Laughing Entertainment Present**

KILLER HALLOWEEN PARTY

MURDER MYSTERY DINNER

SATURDAY OCTOBER 26th

123 Meadow Ave, East Peoria, IL

Prize for
best
costume

Character meet and greet at 5:30, Buffet dinner served at 6:30. Full cash bar, including \$2 BOO Berry Margaritas and specialty Halloween cocktails. Costumes not required but strongly encouraged. Prize for best costume awarded after the show.

\$45
includes
dinner

Richard J. Calfa

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



1134 N. Main Street
Algonquin, IL 60102



66/19



Christine March

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Christine@kanizzle.com www.kanizzle.com

Running Lights

Skokie Valley Sail and Power Squadron

FROM:

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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:

Wind and current strength (being able to
compensate for these factors)



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