



Membership Newsletter - Volume 24 Issue 9

# Running Lights

## September 2024

**MEMBER DINNER MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 22, 2024 4 PM**

**MAGGIANO'S LITTLE ITALY**  
**Hawthorn Center Mall**  
307 Hawthorn Center  
Vernon Hills, IL 60061



United States Power Squadrons is America's Boating Club®



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR COMMANDER

September—the beginning of the end of our boating season. There are still a few weekends before it's time to think about hauling boats out. September brings time to plan that last trip, time to get things ready for fall, time to start our non-boating activities.

But before we get into those, I want to thank Christine and Larry March (with the help of Ron & Joanne Zingler and others) for hosting the Racine Sundowner mid-August. Karen and I were not able to attend the whole event, but we were able to drive up on Friday night for the dinner at Corner House On The Lake. We arrived before the storm hit Racine and enjoyed a great dinner. There were about 20 members and friends who attended. The food choices were excellent and while we enjoyed our dinner, we could see the storm pass by. We sat in a semiprivate room with a view of the harbor and Lake Michigan. Karen and I enjoyed talking to Peggy and Hank, who were friends of Dan and Chris Luczak. I was glad we were able to attend that portion of the Sundowner. On Saturday, Larry & Christine March hosted everyone at the Gaslight Point Marina on the Root River. Unfortunately due to the weather, members who boated to Racine raced home on Saturday, ahead of the wind and waves, but sounds like everyone had a great time.

Now for September and some of the non-boating activities. Our 1<sup>st</sup> General Member Meeting after summer break will be on 22 Sept at Maggiano's Little Italy in Vernon Hills. As usual, Ron & Joanne have gone above and beyond to find new places for our meeting. Details are in this edition of Running Lights and RSVP due by 15 September. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone.

September also brings the Fall Governing Board Meeting in Pittsburgh, PA. There will be a variety of activities to do while there. Some include a ball game, the Carnegie Museum of Art & History, a comedy show, and the Carnegie Science Center. Karen and I will be attending various committee meetings and seminars hoping to learn more about what National is doing in Public Relations, Marketing and the features of the new iMIS system. I know that some members have received their login credentials but are still trying to figure out exactly what they can do in the new member management system. I am one of those people.

Our Educational Officer, Chuck Burger, has been busy setting up classes for the next America's Boating Course to be held in October. He mentioned that he has a few students already enrolled. Thank you, Chuck and all the instructors that volunteer their time, to get our name out and educate the boating public.

Summer may be almost over, but that doesn't mean that there aren't other things to do. With General Meetings, the Fall Conference and wintertime activities, let's try to attend as many of these that we can. Let's keep working at making Skokie Valley Sail and Power Squadron a great club, full of exciting and caring members.

Thank you again for your support and dedication. See you at Maggiano's and maybe Pittsburgh.

—Cdr. Frank D'Amico, AP



## America's Boating Club North Shore 2023-2024 Bridge

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Lt Gail Sidman, AP 847-726-7309

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# Mark Your Calendar



## September 2024

4	Wed	Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900	Zoom meeting (page 8)
15	Sun	Publication Deadline—Running Lights	Karen D'Amico (224-238-7372)
22	Sun	Member Dinner Meeting	Maggiano's, Vernon Hills (below)
24-29	Tue-Sun	USPS Fall Governing Board Conference	Pittsburgh, PA (page 5)

## October 2024

2	Wed	Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900	Zoom meeting (page 8)
15	Tues	Publication Deadline—Running Lights	Karen D'Amico (224-238-7372)
20	Sun	Lake Geneva Bruch Buffet Cruise	Lake Geneva, WI (page 9)
25-26	Fri-Sat	D20 Fall Conference	Pere Marquette Hotel, Peoria, IL

## MEMBER DINNER MEETING SEPTEMBER 22, 2024 COCKTAILS 4 PM, DINNER 5 PM

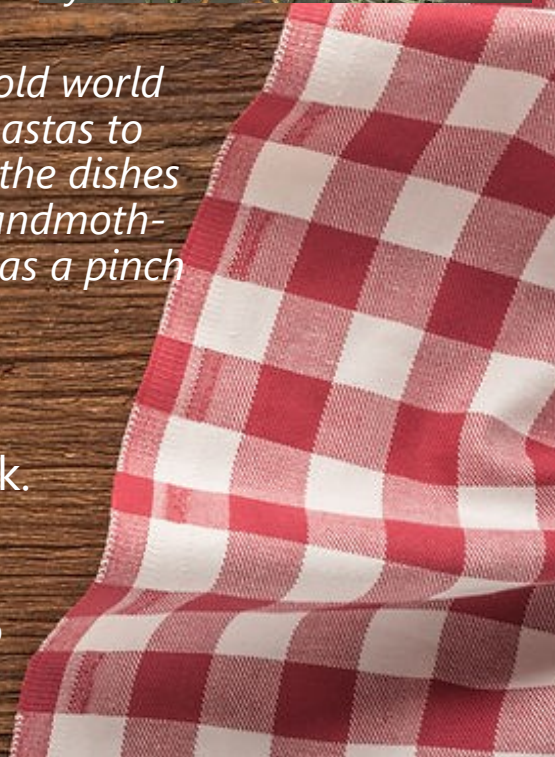
**MAGGIANO'S LITTLE ITALY**  
**Hawthorn Center Mall**  
307 Hawthorn Center  
Vernon Hills, IL 60061

*Located on the south side of the mall, next to Macy's*

*This classic Italian restaurant has a variety of old world favorites, including their Take-Home-Classic pastas to enjoy later. When Maggiano's began in 1991, the dishes were simple, authentic recipes from Italian grandmothers, moms and aunts whose idea of a recipe was a pinch of this and a pinch of that. The rest is history.*

Cash bar + order from the menu. Each person is responsible for their own check.

Kindly **RSVP by September 15th** to reserve a seat. Ron Zingler 847.634.3806 or [zingleron@comcast.net](mailto:zingleron@comcast.net)





# Racine Cruise & Sundowner

Four boats traveled up to Racine on Friday and others drove up Friday night. We had a fantastic dinner at the Corner House on the Lake Restaurant, overlooking Reefpoint Marina.

On Saturday, Christine & Larry March hosted everyone on the party barge at their marina Gaslight Point. We had plenty of food and refreshments for all, played bingo and Jenga. Unfortunately the weather was starting to turn on Sunday, so all the cruisers took their boats home Saturday evening. The March's and Sidman's stayed to enjoy dinner at the Chartroom Restaurant Saturday night.



Joanne & Ron Zingler



Peggy & Hank (friends of the Luczak's)



Dan & Chris Luczak



Karen & Frank D'Amico



Sue & Dave Anthony



Dori & Gail Sidman



Tony & Susan Palazzo



Ray & Deb Adam



Rich Davidson



Sue Anthony, Dan Luczak, and Hank



Gail Sidman, Christine March, Chris Luczak



Joanne Zingler



Ray Adam & Dan Luczak



Larry March

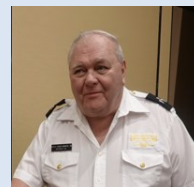


Sue Palazzo





**Our Educational Department will offer courses available to squadron members based on demand. To offer a class we will need a minimum of three students.**



The five Advanced Grade courses available are:

- ⇒ **Boat Handling:** An extension of America's Boating Course, this course continues the topics presented in ABC with greater detail. This course replaces the former Seamanship course.
- ⇒ **Piloting:** This course emphasizes planning and checking along with the use of GPS for determining position, and introduces digital charting along with traditional charting, compass and dead reckoning skills.
- ⇒ **Advanced Marine Navigation:** AMN continues Piloting with advanced plotting techniques, and an introduction to determining tides and currents.
- ⇒ **Junior Navigation:** This course introduces the student to navigating in an offshore environment. This includes using an electronic course plotter, and the use of a sextant to determine position while offshore. The student will also take sights of the sun with a marine sextant.
- ⇒ **Navigation:** This is a continuation of Junior Navigation that includes using electronic navigation tools to plot courses offshore. Sextant use will be expanded to include sights on a planet, star, the moon, and the sun. Also in this course is the study of electronic offshore navigation planning and execution using downloadable computer software.

If you are interested in taking any of these courses, contact me at (847) 322-0828 or email me at [chucknav1@aol.com](mailto:chucknav1@aol.com).

The seven Elective courses available are:

- ⇒ **Cruise Planning**
- ⇒ **Instructor Development**
- ⇒ **Engine Maintenance**
- ⇒ **Marine Electrical Systems**
- ⇒ **Marine Communications Systems**
- ⇒ **Sail**
- ⇒ **Weather**



### Fall Governing Board

September 24 - 29, 2024

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

For more details, visit the National Meeting website

[usps.org/php/reservations\\_new/meetings.php?mtg\\_id=49](https://usps.org/php/reservations_new/meetings.php?mtg_id=49)

Organized activities include:

- Tue 9/24: Pittsburgh Pirates vs Milwaukee Brewers Game
- Wed 9/25: Pittsburgh Zoo & Aquarium
- Wed 9/25: USPS Welcome Friends Dinner at the hotel
- Thurs 9/26: Keynote speaker breakfast
- Thurs 9/26: Carnegie Museums of Art & Natural History
- Thurs 9/26: Comedy Show & Dinner featuring David Kaye
- Fri 9/27: Carnegie Science Center
- Sat 9/28: Bilge Swabber's Ball Dinner Dance

### Sheraton Pittsburgh Riverfront Hotel at Station Square



The hotel is located in Station Square, a redeveloped 52 acre complex of riverfront restaurants, entertainment, and marina. Bressemer Court features a Waltzing Waters Liquid Fireworks show. Gateway Clipper Fleet riverboats offers a variety of sightseeing and dinner cruises. Two historic funicular inclines offer panoramic views of Pittsburgh and the surrounding river area from the top of Mount Washington. Monongahela Incline at Station Square was one of the first to carry passengers in the US. A short walk away, the Duquesne Incline has a museum and viewing area of the funicular machinery in the upper station house. At the top, Point of View Park offers a scenic overlook, fountain, and walking trails.





# SVPS 2024 Event & Cruising Schedule



When	Event	Location	Host
September 22	Dinner Meeting	Maggiano's Little Italy	Ron Zingler
September 24-29	America's Boating Club Fall Governing Board Meeting	Pittsburgh, PA	National Meeting
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	TBA	Ron Zingler
Sunday December 8th	Commanders Holiday Party	Hoffman Estates	Frank D'Amico



America's Boating Channel season seven collection is available on [America's Boating Channel](#).

Even experienced boaters can use a refresher on some topics. Here are a few that caught my eye.

A 6 min video on "[Marine Radio Etiquette](#)" demonstrates the various uses of different VHF channels on marine radios. Viewers learn about the three types of calls appropriate for emergency Channel 16. Also featured are tips for speaking using protocols for proper radio communications.

A 5 min video on "[Navigating Locks](#)" which covers preparations boaters should make prior to passing through locks. Viewers learn steps to take upon arriving at and entering a lock. Also featured are tips for securing vessels as water levels change in locks, the role lockmasters play, and how to safely exit from locks.



## September Anniversaries

Lynn Lorelie	1974	9 yrs
Joe Ratajczak	1968	30 yrs
Kay Widdis	1993	33 yrs
Dennis McNamara	1975	50 yrs
Paul T Mulroy	1975	51 yrs

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

**Cdr Frank D'Amico, AP**

## CAPTAIN AHAB'S QUIZ

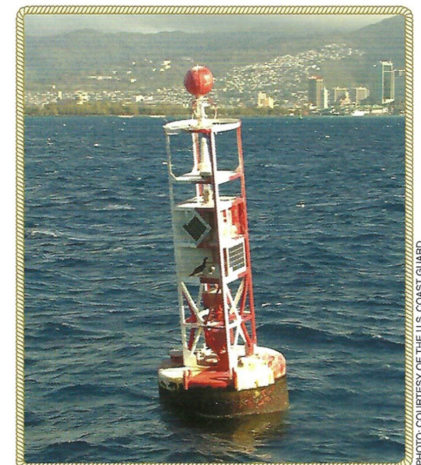


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE U.S. COAST GUARD

Some buoys have sound-producing devices including: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_.

(see answer on back page)

Tom Clark, AP, Contributing Editor  
Courtesy of Perchant Publishing



## Lake Michigan Boat Trip by Dan Luczak

July 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 am three boats left for Manitowoc from North Point Marina-Dave/Sue Anthony (Relax Inn), Ray/Deb Adam (Reel Paradise) and Dan/Chris Luczak (Seventh Lady). We left a day early to miss the weather and waves that were expected on July 10<sup>th</sup>.

July 9<sup>th</sup> was a sunny and calm day—perfect for a 111-mile trip. We arrived at the harbor around noon. Manitowoc is a stop for the Badger and home to the Cobia WWII submarine and museum. The marina has a boater's lounge that we used to play games, we dined at Ryan's on York, a gastro pub.



Pictured here the 6 couples at Manitowoc, including members: Dave and Sue Anthony, Ray and Deb Adams Dan and Chris Luczak



Our sailboat friends caught up with us Wednesday July 10<sup>th</sup> and experienced the bad weather that we missed ☹️. We played boat mechanics on one sailboat due to a stuck shift cable. After 3 hours and 6 “mechanics”, we were able to get the cable freed up. Tech tip—always take a picture before you take anything apart.

Deb Adam arranged dinner at Harbor Side Restaurant for the 12 of us, where we had our own room. We noticed that when we went out to eat, we often had brand new waitress or waitress in training. We went through many mixed-up checks during the trip.

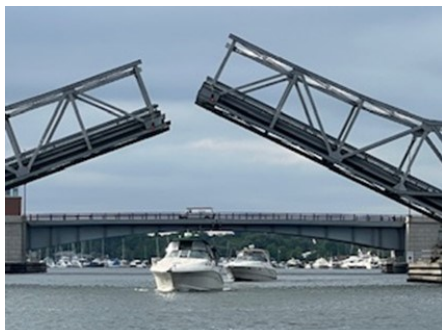
We also had a bocce ball tournament on the grass outside the boater's lounge after we enjoyed a “bring whatever you have onboard” meal.

July 13<sup>th</sup> we were off North to Sturgeon Bay-Center Pointe Marina and our sailboat friends went South. We left with another flat lake. 44 miles later we arrived in Sturgeon Bay-Center Pointe Marina. This is a marina that should be visited. Great boaters lounge, swimming pool and free ice. This marina is home to 60+ ft boats—there was a 80ft Burger docked by us—a lot of nice looking new and old boats in the harbor.

On the way into Sturgeon Bay, we got reacquainted with the navigational aids in the channels and a lot of no wake zones. The Boat Handling class that we took over winter with Chuck came in handy.

We found many restaurants and pubs that nourished us here—Couple mentions would be Morning Glory by the Bay, Inn at Cedar Crossing and Door County Fire Company. Dave's birthday was the day we arrived, and when we went to Morning Glory for lunch, we mentioned it to the waitress, and she brought him a lemon blueberry muffin with whipped cream and a candle. All the workers came to sing him Happy Birthday. She said they'd never done that before, so it was a pleasant surprise. We had a dinner at Stone Harbor restaurant where the waitress took 5

tries and 40 minutes to bill us closely correctly (new waitress). It finally was sorted—I think we still owe them for a soup.



July 16<sup>th</sup> we were off to Menominee. Ray and I went through our first bridge lift. Next time we will be more prepared. We needed to be closer to the bridge and start moving sooner as the bridge went up. (As the bridge tender announced if we didn't start to move towards the bridge he was going to lower it.)

Continued on next page...

Leaving Manitowoc



View from boater lounge at Center Point Marina





We traveled 24 miles and were in 1-2 footers as we crossed the bay. This was the only time we did not have a flat lake. Menominee Marina had the lowest price for fuel at \$3.75 a gallon. The marina had a boater's lounge where we played games on a rainy day. It also had coffee machines and Sue's favorite.... Hot Chocolate.

July 19<sup>th</sup> we were off to Fish Creek, 18 miles across the bay. Dave and I were docked on the inside of the outer wall by the entrance which seemed to get waves more than I thought it would. The first night we went to White Gull Inn for a white fish boil. First fish boil for me and now I am looking to go again. We had several lunches and drinks at the Bayside Tavern.

Town had a lot of shopping and restaurants that we ended up visiting. Chris and I toured the state park while Ray, Deb, Dave, Sue took a boat ride to look at the caves. While at the lighthouse in the state park, Chris and I saw Ray and the gang on their boat ride. Pictures right are of us taking pictures of each other. What are the chances we would see each other. (should have played lottery that day)



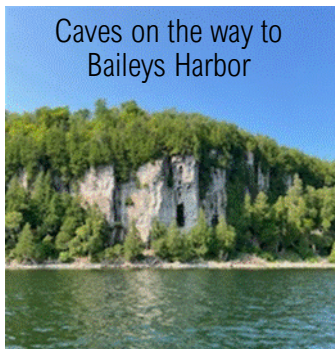
Fish Creek Alibi Marina at night



Boat ride past Peninsula State Park



Eagle Bluff Lighthouse



Caves on the way to Baileys Harbor



July 22<sup>nd</sup> we were off to Baileys Harbor. This trip took us through Deaths Door-one of the areas where there are the most wrecks in Lake Michigan. We came through unscathed – no dinged props.

At Bailey's Harbor there was no boaters lounge, and we had a full day of rain. We used Ray and Deb's boat as the boater lounge for that day. We enjoyed Cornerstone Pub and Harbor Fish Market and Grill for meals.

July 25<sup>th</sup> we left for Sturgeon Bay/ Center Pointe Marina. We had such a good time we wanted to go back one more time. But the weather controlled how long we were going to stay. In looking at the forecast we knew – we had 1 good day – flat lake which was on July 26<sup>th</sup> or wait the weather out and leave July 30<sup>th</sup>.

July 26<sup>th</sup> we left Sturgeon Bay and traveled 165 miles back to North Point with a stop in Port Washington for fuel. Total of 447 miles we travelled in two and half weeks. Our trip was full of amazing scenery and most of all fun boating with friends.



Baileys Harbor Fish Market



Fish Creek Bay Side Tavern

# Team North Shore

**Executive Committee Meeting: Sept 4 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](mailto: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



## IDNR Cruise on the Chain *by Chuck Burger*

On July 27<sup>th</sup> my friend, Alan Travis and I, took his boat and picked up Hunter Nikolai at Watt's marina on the Chain O' Lakes for an afternoon of boating. Hunter is the new Volunteer Services Coordinator for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) in Region 2, which encompasses our area. He is located at the James "Pate" Philip state park in Bartlett. Hunter is new to the IDNR and had never been on the Chain before.

We started out cruising Pistakee Lake which was relatively quiet. We then proceeded to the west channel that goes under Rt.12 and into Nippersink Lake. That channel, like all the channels on the Chain, is no wake. As usual there were a lot of boats going up and down the channel.

Our trip then took us through Nippersink and into Grass Lake. Of course, the main feature of Grass Lake is Blarney's Island. We drove by it but did not stop to go in. Traffic was getting heavier.

The next channel took us to Lake Marie. From there we went through a short channel to Bluff Lake. Bluff is a smaller lake with a lot of boat traffic.

The next channel took us from Bluff Lake to Spring Lake and into Petite Lake. This is a long channel with homes on both sides of the channel. The homes used to be summer cottages, but over the last number of years most of them have been converted to full-time residences. Again, lots of traffic on this channel.



The next lake was Petite Lake. This is the smallest lake on the Chain but one of the most crowded. There is a huge sandbar at the southeast end of the lake, which always has a great number of boats rafted up and this day was no exception.

The next channel took us to Fox Lake, the second largest lake on the Chain and the most popular. The two pictures were taken at Columbia Bay, at the northern end of the lake. Again, being a beautiful day, there were a huge number of boats rafted up there.



We then went down Fox Lake and proceeded back to Pistakee and back to Watt's marina. The marina was so crowded that we could not get to the launch ramp to drop Hunter off. We went to Alan's summer home, put the boat on the lift, and I drove Hunter back to the marina to get his truck.

The whole trip took us about three hours, and it gave Hunter a good exposure to see what boating on the Chain O'Lakes was all about.



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66/19



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# 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](http://www.skokievalleypowersquadron.org)

**District 20:** [www.uspsd20Boating.org](http://www.uspsd20Boating.org)

**USPS:** [www.AmericasBoatingClub.org](http://www.AmericasBoatingClub.org)



Captain Ahab answer:  
Bells, horns, gongs, whistles



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