



Membership Newsletter - Volume 19 Issue 4

# Running Lights

## April 2019

You are cordially invited to the annual  
Change of Watch dinner

Saturday April 13th at 12:30 PM

# WILDFIRE®

STEAKS, CHOPS & SEAFOOD

235 Parkway Drive in Lincolnshire

United States Power Squadrons is America's Boating Club®



**A MESSAGE FROM OUR COMMANDER**

**W**ow, final column! Taking a second tour as commander, it's not like time flew by. I look back at the past 11+ months and the columns and recall that we did keep busy over the past year. The column dates and the activities start to run together. Whether by the column's date or looking back to the actual month, I was reminded that in May some people were already boating, and I was already talking about America's Boating Club. By June we were making the new National brand a reality as "America's Boating Club of the North Shore" just as I turned 60 in the company of friends at North Point Marina, gathered for a flare shoot and dinner. July we had a booth at a paddling event and COSI and a cruise. We ended the month with the C&R. August brought cruise activities in Chicago and the Governing Board in Minneapolis the same weekend. Then it was September and Labor Day, and us back to dinner meetings.



**Skokie Valley Sail & Power Squadron  
2018-2019 Bridge**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>COMMANDER</b><br>Cdr Joe Lokaj, JN   | 847-914-9447                                 |
| <b>EXECUTIVE OFFICER</b><br>P/C Don Sidman, JN  | 847-726-7309                                 |
| <b>ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER</b><br>P/C Ron Zingler, AP-IN   | 847-634-3806                                 |
| <b>SECRETARY</b><br>Lt/C Gail Sidman, S   | 847-726-7309                                 |
| <b>TREASURER</b><br>Lt/C Sue Anthony, P   | 224-402-3107                                 |
| <b>EDUCATION OFFICER</b><br>Lt/C Richard Davidson, SN   | 847-295-8845                                 |
| <b>ASST. EDUCATION OFFICER</b><br>Lt/C James E. Soyka, SN-CN                                      | 847-635-6239                                 |
| <b>IMMEDIATE PAST COMMANDER</b><br>I/P/C Gary Vinzant, JN   | 847-827-7179                                 |
| <b>ELECTED MEMBERS AT LARGE</b><br>Lt Dave Anthony, P<br>Stf/C Pat Antoni, SN<br>Lt Al Antoni, AP | 224-402-3107<br>847-436-6439<br>847-826-0821 |

In October, we marked the end of the season and back to land-based activities, like Fall Conference. Of course November brought our Anniversary dinner, December the Commander's open house, which Sue and I enjoyed hosting. January brought the Chicago Boat Show and hope springing eternal for this fool that winter would soon be over. We marked February with a play and other distractions during the lull before March. By last month those of us up here in the frozen north were again looking forward to boat season prep, for sure. I missed a new event, a Snowman Burning in Waukegan at Bay Marine, but the District Spring Conference in Elgin was just what I needed.

At conference we had our usual hospitality suite. Somehow ... strike that; *because of* the group of friends that assembled for our member meeting -- a pizza delivery plus pre-bagged salad from a grocery store, homemade desserts, and our private bar -- the first evening was as relaxing and fun as a night out at a restaurant. During the day we heard about the wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald, the 2019 C&R coinciding with Tall Ships in Kenosha, and held the actual conference. The second evening a dinner table full of us attended District Change of Watch, which included the swearing in of our own Stuart Zwang as the new D20 Secretary, right after Mary Merrell became our District Commander.

Enough looking back. Here we are in April and our Squadron's Change of Watch. We have multiple ABC courses scheduled over the boating season. Time to start boat prep, plan for vessel safety checks, and to get back out on the water after a rough winter. Remember, get your America's Boating Club of the North Shore badges on order, while we still have blanks. We'll order more if needed, but smaller batches come at a higher price. ... and ...

Spring is here! It's been an honor serving as your commander for a 2nd time. My sincere thanks to all of you who have made this an enjoyable and active year, and to my wife who helped me make it through some of the busiest of times!

—Cdr. Joe Lokaj, JN





# Mark Your Calendar



## April 2019

|    |     |  |                                   |
|----|-----|--|-----------------------------------|
| 3  | Wed | Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900     | Yen Yen Restaurant, Buffalo Grove |
| 6  | Sat | America's Boating Course                 | Larsen Marine, Waukegan (page 7)  |
| 10 | Wed | Skokie Valley Breakfast Club, 0900-1000  | Market Square, Wheeling           |
| 13 | Sat | Member Meeting and Change of Watch, 1230 | Wildfire, Lincolnshire (page 4)   |
| 15 | Mon | Publication Deadline—Running Lights      | Karen D'Amico (630-483-9741)      |
| 24 | Wed | Skokie Valley Breakfast Club, 0900-1000  | Market Square, Wheeling           |

## May 2019

|       |         |   |                                   |
|-------|---------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1     | Wed     | Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900    | Yen Yen Restaurant, Buffalo Grove |
| 4     | Sat     | Rowing Regatta                          | Crystal Lake                      |
| 8     | Wed     | Skokie Valley Breakfast Club, 0900-1000 | Market Square, Wheeling           |
| 15    | Fri     | Publication Deadline—Running Lights     | Karen D'Amico (630-483-9741)      |
| 18    | Sat     | Cocktails 1300 and Member Meeting 1500  | Southport Marina, Kenosha         |
| 18-24 | Sat-Fri | National Safe Boating Week              | www.safeboatingcampaign.com       |
| 22    | Wed     | Skokie Valley Breakfast Club, 0900-1000 | Market Square Wheeling            |

## OUR NEW NAME TAGS ARE HERE!!!

United States Power Squadrons is rebranding itself as America's Boating Club® to attract new members and take us into the future. Skokie Valley is doing the same.

We still believe in safety, boater education, and of course great camaraderie, but our organization name is not well known or understood. Our new branding helps the boating public more easily understand who we are and what we do. USPS has not changed its name. We invested time and money to promote and generate awareness that USPS is America's Boating Club®.

Skokie Valley Sail & Power Squadron has adopted the new branding to leverage the national campaign. And now we have new name tags that reflect our brand as America's Boating Club® of the North Shore.

**All existing Skokie Valley members can order a new customized name tag with our brand.**

Your Bridge has authorized and purchased new blanks for name tags, such as the one shown here. Although the real cost of a completed name tag is \$30, the bridge has decided to subsidize the cost to you for your first name tag. Thus the cost of your first name tag (with a magnetic clasp) is \$15. Additional name tags are \$30.



**In order to get yours, please e-mail Stuart Zwang (Mr. Ships Store) at [rzwang11@comcast.net](mailto:rzwang11@comcast.net).** The above picture is just an example. You can choose to include your name, grade, and/or position. Please email Stuart the exact details, i.e. spelling, title, etc. that you want printed on your name tag.



# **WILDFIRE<sup>®</sup>**

**STEAKS, CHOPS & SEAFOOD**

**235 Parkway Drive in Lincolnshire**

## **Skokie Valley Change of Watch Saturday 13 April 2019**

**Join us for the installation of the Skokie Valley  
2019 Bridge and to thank the 2018 Bridge Officers  
for their service**

**1230 Cocktails (cash bar)**

**1300 Family Style Dinner – \$45**

**1430 Change of Watch Ceremony**

**Family Style Dinner: prime rib, split-roasted herb  
chicken, cedar planked salmon, redskin mashed  
potatoes and balsamic-roasted vegetables**

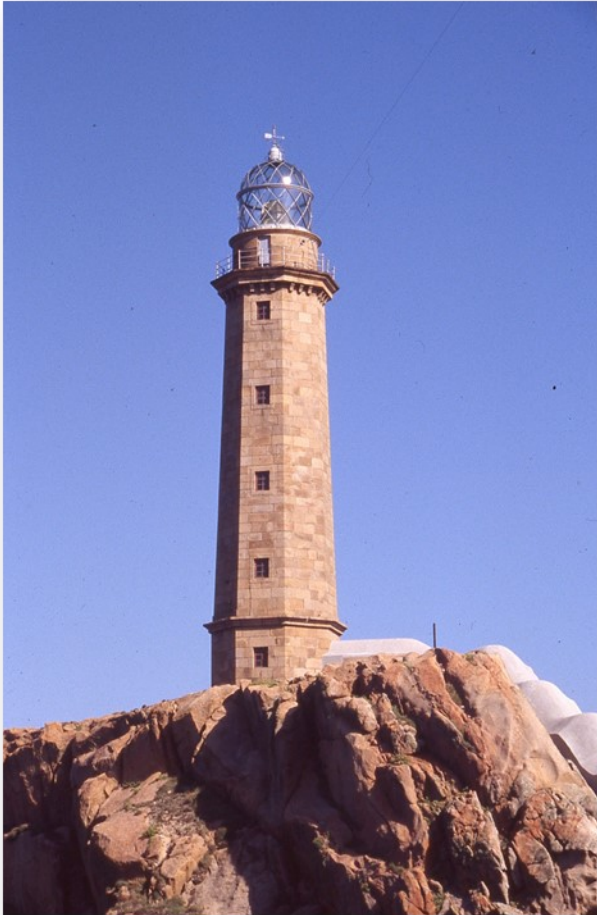
**Includes: appetizer/salad, coffee, tea, soda  
and dessert**

**Please make reservations by 6 April**

**Sign up on SailAngle or contact Rich Davidson  
via phone 847-295-8845 or Rich@DavidsonData.com**

# Cape Villano

## Camarinas, Spain



This lighthouse is located at the very edge of a very rugged stone ledge, at the very furthest edge of a peninsula overlooking the Atlantic Ocean in the town of Camarinas, Spain. It is one of the most dangerous stretches of the “Coast of the Death”, but it is also the most beautiful.

This lighthouse is located 410 feet above sea level and is attached to an old building that once was the lighthouse keepers. It has a powerful light that can reach 45 miles out to sea. The reason for this great distance is because of the height of this lighthouse.

First built in 1854, it was rebuilt in 1896. This is one of the oldest electric lighthouses in Spain. It was lit with electricity on January 15, 1896.

In 1933 the site was declared a National Interest because of its rocky & steep setting. It is now a National Monument.

In 1890, the English ship **HMS *Serpent***, which sailed the **Sierra Leone**, sank near the cape because of a storm. It got grounded at the base of the lighthouse. All of the crew went to the upper deck with their lifejackets on. Then they got the lifeboats ready and a big wave came and washed the crew and the lifeboats off the ship crashing them against the cliffs. The next day the bodies were floating with their life jackets on. 173 men perished and were all buried in the English Cemetery (Cemiterio dos Ingleses), a short distance from Cape Villano.

Submitted by: Bridget Doerner, N  
Photo by: George H. Doerner, SN





## **YOUR WEATHER REPORT**

**By Mike Hennessy, AP, Instructor-Weather course**



### **Unusual Weather**

In the United States we are accustomed to routine weather patterns. We receive cold dry weather from the North and warm wet Weather from the South. This weather usually moves from West to East and is influenced by the Jet Stream. But there are exceptions which are not easily understood and even harder to explain.

For example, in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean there is what we call the Bermuda High. It basically stays in one place although through out the year it will move a little to the East then back to the West, but it always stays in the general vicinity of Bermuda, thus the name.

In the desert regions of the USA, there is a low-pressure system that basically sits over Arizona and Southern Nevada. Low pressure systems are always associated with a warm front and a cold front unless it is a tropical storm. Tropical Storms don't have fronts. But the Southwestern low is not a tropical storm.

Although normally weather moves West to East, the Southwestern low and the Bermuda High seem to defy the basic laws of weather movement.

If we look down under, we will see that Australia is having a terrible time with heat and drought. It appears that most of their farmland and cattle grazing land is drying up and burning. Since Australia is surrounded by water it is hard to understand why it is so dry. I was there in 2000 and found the weather to be delightful, so something has changed which I can't explain.

If we look at world weather, we will find this unusual weather all over the world. Some of these weather patterns are natural and we accept it, but how do we explain the unnatural?

#### **OUR GREAT LAKES, OUR GREATEST RESOURCE**

Spring is finally here! Every year, thousands of people volunteer to prepare the Great Lakes beaches for the summer. This year, the Alliance for the Great Lakes is hosting their annual beach cleanup events from April—June 2019.

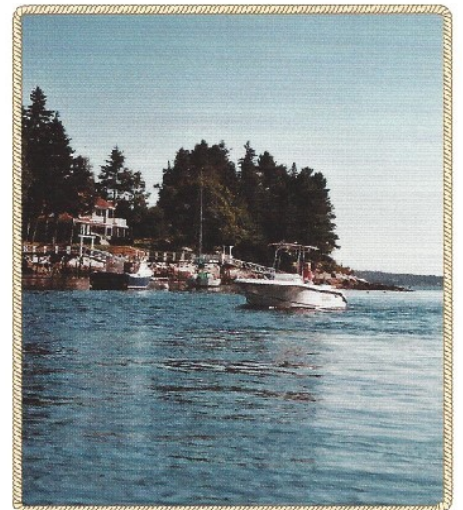


Last year, volunteers picked up 36,128 pounds of trash, and 89% of it was plastic. It's really important to pick up plastic because it never really goes away. It takes years to break down into smaller and smaller pieces, where it is consumed by fish and other wildlife. It even threatens human health.

Go to <http://greatlakesadopt.org> to sign up for one of hundreds of scheduled events. Many organizations are sponsoring events at their nearby beaches. Just search for the county, city or beach name where you want to volunteer and you can view the available event dates. You can also send them a donation.

If you don't see the location or date you are looking for, you can host your own Adopt-a-Beach™ event. Your event can be open to the public or private if you already have a group of volunteers. Go to the website and click on "Host your own event".

#### **CAPTAIN AHAB'S QUIZ**



On a river, which vessel has the right-of-way...the up-bound or down-bound vessel?

(see answer on back page)

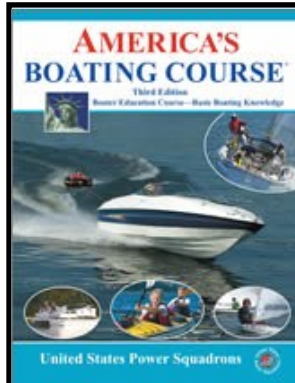
Tom Clark, AP, Contributing Editor  
Courtesy of Perchant Publishing



# SVPS 2019 Event & Cruising Schedule



| When                | Event  | Location                        | Host                       |
|---------------------|--|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| April 6th           | America's Boating Course                               | Larsen Marine, Waukegan         | Rich Davidson              |
| April 13th          | SVPS Change of Watch                                   | Wildfire, Lincolnshire          | Rich Davidson              |
| May 4th             | Rowing Regatta   | Crystal Lake                    | Gary Vinzant               |
| May 18th            | Cocktail Hour  | Gotta Love It, Southport Marina | Ron Zingler                |
| May 18th            | Dinner Meeting Casa Capri                              | Kenosha                         | Ron Zingler                |
| June 8th            | Sundowner  | Northpoint                      | Dave and Sue Anthony       |
| June 20th-23rd      | Windy City LakeShake<br>(Country Music Festival)       | Burnham Harbor                  | Ron Zingler                |
| June 26-30th        | Summerfest   | Milwaukee                       | Ron Zingler                |
| June 29th           | America's Boating Course                               | Sequoit Harbor, Antioch         | Rich Davidson              |
| July 13th 1600      | Flareshoot   | Bay Marine                      | Rich Davidson              |
| July 18th           | COSI (Children's Oncology Services) Boat Day           | Southport Marina                | Ron Zingler                |
| July 19th-27th      | Summer Cruise to Sturgeon Bay, Bailey's Harbor, Algoma | Starting at Southport Marina    | Dave Anthony, Tony Palazzo |
| July 22nd-Aug 10th  | Cruise to Pure Michigan                                | Sturgeon Bay                    | Ron Zingler                |
| July 27th-July 30th | Cruise to Tall Ships                                   | Milwaukee/ Port Washington      | Mike Ludtke                |
| August 1-4th        | Tall Ships Festival, D20 C&R                           | Southport Marina                | Mike Ludtke                |
| August TBD          | Hob Nob Outing   | Racine                          |                            |
| September 14th      | America's Boating Course                               | Bay Marine, Waukegan            | Rich Davidson              |
| September 15th      | Dinner Meeting   | Club Casa, Des Plaines, IL      | Ron Zingler                |
| October 19th        | Dinner Meeting   | Port Edwards, Algonquin         | Ron Zingler                |
| November 16th       | Anniversary Dinner                                     | Saddleroom, Hoffman Estates     | Ron Zingler                |
| December 15th       | Commander's Holiday Party                              | Lake Forest, IL                 | Rich Davidson              |



## Skokie Valley will offer America's Boating Course Saturday April 6th at Larsen Marine

Students will learn about channel markers, docking, knot tying, rules of the road, and essential safety procedures. Also radio usage, nomenclature, vessel safety checks, anchoring, and other subjects. The course has a \$50 fee to cover the cost of the book and processing of the final exam. Passing the test provides 12-18 year old students with a certificate to legally operate a wave runner in Illinois. For everyone else, it provides a certificate to lower insurance costs, boat safety, know the rules of the road, dock with confidence, protect their family and maintain their investment.

Contact Rich Davidson if you want to assist with the class on Saturday April 6th.



# SVPS May Dinner Meeting

## Saturday May 18th 2019

### 3 PM Zingler's "Gotta Love IT"

### 5 PM Ashling On The Lough Irish Pub

Our May dinner meeting begins with refreshment hour aboard "Gotta Love It" and a short walk to the Irish Pub for dinner. Ashling On The Lough is a traditional Irish Pub who has perfected Irish comfort food.



*Cocktail Hour @ 1500*  
*Gotta Love It—Dock H419*  
*Southport Marina*  
*97 57th Street*  
*Kenosha, WI 53140*



*Dinner @ 1700      Cost \$30*

### *Ashling On The Lough*

*Entrees: Choice of Chicken Shannon, Guinness BBQ Sandwich, Angus Burger, or Fish & Chips*  
*Includes: Irish root soup & salad, bread pudding for dessert, soft drinks, coffee, tea & iced tea*

**Kindly RSVP by May 8th**  
**Ron Zingler @ 847-634-3806**  
**zinglereron@comcast.net**





## Burning Snowman Festival at Bay Marine

The torch was lit, as we all waited anxiously in the 35 degree weather with hot chocolate in hand for the Boogg (snowman) to give us a sign of what the 2019 summer weather will be like. As the tradition goes in Zurich Switzerland, the snowman is set on fire to find out if we will have a hot summer. The faster the fire reaches the snowman's head the better the summer will be.



Well as you can tell from the photos it appears to be a mild summer coming our way. I do believe some of our weather forecasters will use this same trusted method.

For sure, no matter what happens, our boaters will still launch their boats in the spring and take on whatever comes their way this summer.

—by Ron Zingler





# District 20 Spring Conference



Pat Antoni & Rich Davidson



Marilyn Calfa & Joanne Zingler



Gary & Lorraine Vinzant



Sue Anthony



Gail & Don Sidman



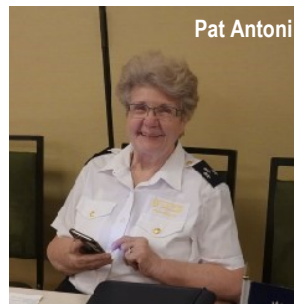
Richard Calfa



Sue & Dave Anthony



SVPS members at dinner with Ellen & Mike Ludtke



Pat Antoni



Joanne & Ron Zingler



Dave & Sue Anthony



Ron & Joanne Zingler



Al & Pat Antoni



Karen & Frank D'Amico



Joe Lokaj, Karen D'Amico, & Stu Zwang



Stu Zwang is sworn in as D20 Secretary



The Palm Beach International Boat Show was in West Palm Beach this year, 29 March through 1 April 2019. Wow!! I thought that I could get to see it while in West Palm.

We were in our very inexpensive Condominium in Boca Raton FL. Actually, we have had it for quite a while. We purchased it when our kids were small, and spent many a happy spring and Christmas break down there. It did not go vacant during "High Season." My wife and I had her parents stay there during winter. I got a three-for out of it. I was a good son-in-law, somebody looked after it, and I got rid of my in-laws for 3 months.

We decided to drive past the site first. The cheapest parking we could find was for \$20. In order to avail ourselves for that, we would also have to take the trolley for 15 minutes to get to the entrance. Then we looked the event up on the internet. The admission was \$28 per person. So, before we could see one boat (or eat one expensive hot dog,) we would be out almost \$80.

By the way, I am not interested in purchasing a new boat – and as I think about it, the cheapest part of boating is actually buying it. That does not include all the stuff you add to the boat, gas, insurance, winter storage, docking costs, etc. In fact, I think that my small 23' Larsen boat costs me about \$250 per hour to brave 4 foot waves in Lake Michigan. Last season we went out when we should not have. I had several of those "4 footers" (well maybe 6 footers) go over my bow. We were all so wet.

But I continued to think about the boat show. My favorite part of a boat show is all the paraphernalia that they sell. I bought my Maui Jim Reader sun glasses one year. I was enticed to purchase new binoculars, PFD's and of course the hooks, line, and sinkers. Each exhibitor must pay to get their product to the exhibition. Then they have to pay the exhibition hall or marina to get a space. The amount of money that they pay and invest in the boat show, is astronomical, or at least the price of purchasing a couple of cruise tickets to Madagascar.

The exhibitor pays the venue. The visitors pay the venue. So, as I think about it, who makes money at a boat show? Clearly the venue owner operator makes money. If the exhibitor makes money, it is by selling his wares. But I thought that the 80 bucks was outrageous. My wife and I passed on it. So who loses? The venue operator and the exhibitors (at least the ones that sell the jewelry cleaners, boat lettering, and boat fenders.)

But I guess that the \$80 is a bar to eliminate the unwashed public from viewing the fine wares that are available. To me, that is wrong. In light of all this, I think that the boat show entry fees should be something small and simple. Like \$5 or \$10 each. Or better yet, free.

See you on the water.

—by Stuart Zwang

## April Anniversaries

|                        |      |        |
|------------------------|------|--------|
| Sue & Tony Palazzo     | 2001 | 16 yrs |
| Sowah Anyetei          | 2001 | 18 yrs |
| Don & Gail Sidman      | 2001 | 18 yrs |
| Hugh & Judy Sommerfeld | 1996 | 23 yrs |
| Frank D'Amico          | 1990 | 27 yrs |
| Dick Hughes            | 1990 | 30 yrs |
| George Doerner         | 1980 | 40 yrs |
| Robert Frankenbush     | 1973 | 47 yrs |

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

**Cdr Joe Lokaj, JN**

**Richard J. Calfa**

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 Algonquin, IL 60102



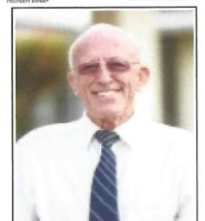
23/19

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Each office is independently owned and operated.

**Dick Hughes**  
 Broker Associate



18/23

# Running Lights

Skokie Valley Sail and Power Squadron

**FROM:**

P/D/C Karen D'Amico, AP  
318 Somerset Dr  
Streamwood, IL 60107

**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:  
Down-bound vessel



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