





**SKOKIE VALLEY SAIL
AND POWER SQUADRON**

DISTRICT 20

Membership Newsletter - Volume 22 Issue 12

Running Lights

December 2022



Happy Holidays!



**Everyone is invited to
celebrate the season at Commander
Tony Palazzo's Holiday Party
December 11, 2022**



**At the Zingler's home
1307 Green Knolls Drive
Buffalo Grove, Illinois**





A MESSAGE FROM OUR COMMANDER

The weather has been reasonably nice. The leaves are almost done falling. That is a great thing. Now we get ready for snow. It seems living in Illinois has a chore for every season. Hopefully we have a mild winter and very little snow.

We had a good turnout at the November dinner meeting at Dover Straits where about 20 members attended. The food was excellent.

Earlier in the month at our cruise planning meeting, we came up with a great itinerary for next year. Some of the final details are being worked out and it will be another great full schedule for next year.

Coming up is the Commander's Open House on December 11th, which starts at 12:30 pm at the Zingler house. We have a great afternoon planned with food catered by Maggiano's. There is no need to bring anything except your appetite. Drinks also will be provided. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the December 11th Open House. Please RSVP by December 4th to zingleron@comcast.net.

The Chicago Boat Show at McCormick Place is scheduled for January 11th – 15th. Although District 20 will not have a booth this year, it is a great event to attend and see what's new in boating. You can also consider attending the January dinner meeting at Gusto's in Glenview on January 22nd. Ron and Joanne have done an excellent job selecting great restaurants for our dinner meetings. Don't miss out.

I hope to see everyone at the Commander's Open House on December 11th. If not, I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New year.

—Cdr. Tony Palazzo, AP




America's Boating Club North Shore 2022-2023 Bridge

COMMANDER	Cdr Tony Palazzo, AP	630-347-6586
EXECUTIVE OFFICER	P/C Frank D'Amico, AP	224-238-7372
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SECRETARY	P/D/C Karen D'Amico, AP	224-238-7372
TREASURER	Lt/C Sue Anthony, P	224-402-3107
EDUCATION OFFICER	Lt/C James E. Soyka, SN-CN	847-635-6239
ASSISTANT EDUCATION OFFICER	1st Lt Joe Paldo, P	847-255-9158
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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



December 2022

7	Wed	Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900	Zoom meeting, see page 5
11	Sun	Commander's Open House	Buffalo Grove, see page 7
15	Thurs	Publication Deadline—Running Lights	Karen D'Amico (224-238-7372)

January 2023

4	Wed	Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900	Zoom meeting, see page 5
11-15	Wed-Sun	Chicago Boat Show	McCormick Place South, Chicago
15	Sun	Publication Deadline—Running Lights	Karen D'Amico (224-238-7372)
22	Sun	January Dinner Meeting	Gusto Ristorante, Glenview IL (below)

Sunday, 22 January 2023
Gusto Ristorante Italiano
 1834 Glenview Road
 Glenview, IL 60025

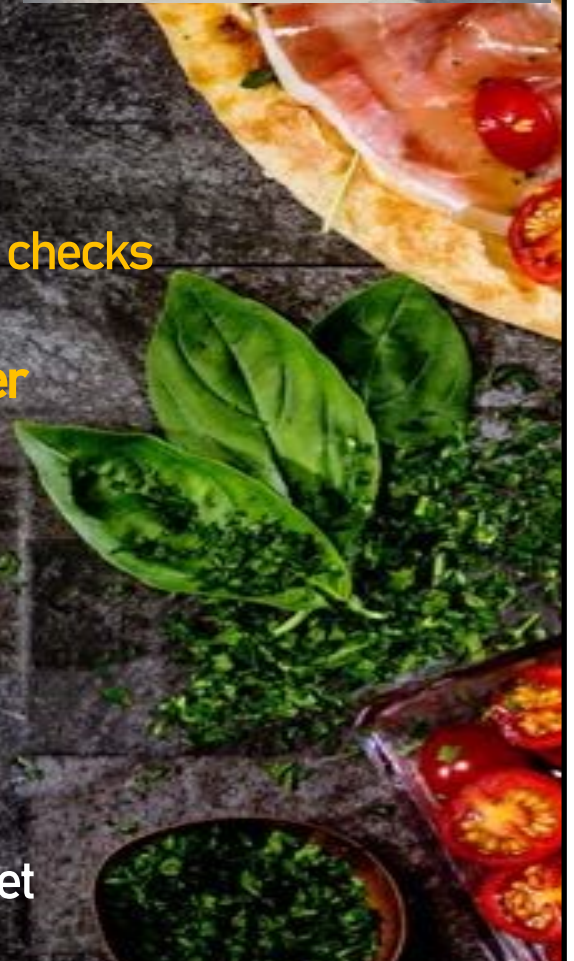


Celebrate the new year at Gusto in downtown Glenview featuring award winning Mediterranean cuisine.

We will order from the menu, individual checks
 Explore their menu at the link below
<https://www.gustorestaurant.com/dinner>



Seating at 4:00 pm
 Kindly respond
 by January 15th
 to Ron Zingler
 847-634-3806 or
zingleron@comcast.net



November Anniversary Meeting



Tony & Susan Palazzo



Gail & Don Sidman



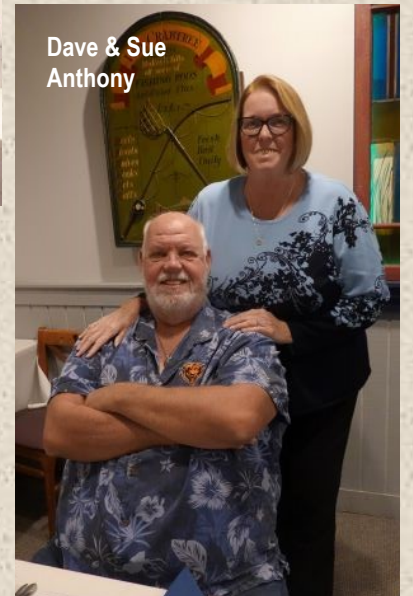
Larry & Christine March



Natalie Witty & Joe Paldo



Mary Soyka, Gail Sidman, Joanne Zingler



Dave & Sue Anthony



Ron & Joanne Zingler



Chuck Burger



Natalie Witty



Don Sidman, Ron Zingler, Gary Vinzant



Lori & Joe Ratajczak



SVPS 2022 Event & Cruising Schedule



When	Event	Location	Host
December 11 Sunday	Commander's Holiday Party	Buffalo Grove	Commander

Team North Shore

November Executive Committee Meeting: Wed Dec 7th at 7:00 pm Central
Zoom Meeting ID: 840 0686 8915, Passcode: 690199

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84006868915?pwd=Y01UMzI4Tk1EazNaMEpmWWZTYVVadz09>

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

One tap mobile : +13126266799,,84006868915#,,,,*690199# US (Chicago)

Welcome to our newest member
Chuck Burger who just transferred from Fox Valley Squadron



P/D/C Chuck Burger, SN

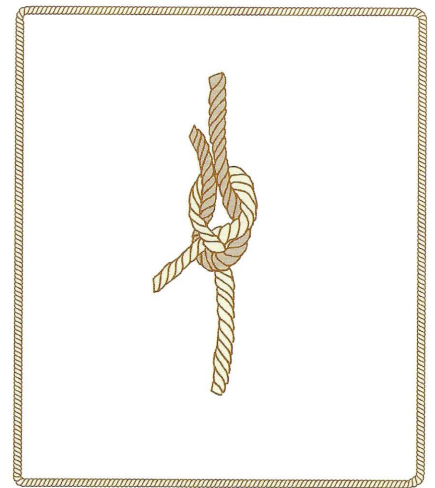
December Anniversaries

Marita Ocampo	2005	17 yrs
Birute Apke	2001	21 yrs
Thomas Clark	1998	24 yrs
James Soyka	1992	30 yrs
Karen D'Amico	1991	31 yrs
James Koolish	1991	31 yrs
Keith & Kyle Parker	1991	31 yrs
Edward Colaprete	1988	34 yrs
Bruce & Denyse Goodman	1986	36 yrs

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

Cdr Tony Palazzo, AP

CAPTAIN AHAB'S QUIZ



The “_____” is probably the best knot used to join two lines of different diameters together.

(see answer on back page)

Tom Clark, AP, Contributing Editor
Courtesy of Perchant Publishing

“OLD ENOUGH TO VOTE” by Stuart Zwang

As we grow older, our bodies slowly start to break down. I have earned a handicapped parking because in addition to the two total knee replacements, I have had eighteen (yes, 18) other orthopedic procedures for my lower limbs. Similarly, the average mileage of my auto fleet is roughly 100,000 miles. I guess that perhaps I do too good of a job of maintaining my stuff, or I am too cheap to purchase new stuff. I also have rolls of sound deadening foam, extra fasteners, spare parts and specialized tools to keep them running.

At eighteen years old, my 2003 22' open bow Larson runabout is now old enough to vote. Since the legal drinking age is 21, this boat cannot and should not drink. That explains the reason the bilge pump (I cannot resist this pun) came up dry. In other words, it does not work. I realized this because I periodically flick the toggle switch of all my equipment (mostly lighting) to see if they work. The toggle switch has a red LED indicator light on it. When I did the bilge pump, no light came on. There was also no noise coming from the bilge pump.

No problem. I purchased a couple of replacement toggle switches from Amazon, and spent about two hours trying to replace the bugger. In order to replace it, one must first be a double jointed circus performer. I did replace it. I also used about half a box of band aids after this heroism. Still, the LED did not go on.

So, as I have 'In-Out' service at a local marina, I decided that discretion was the better part of valor, and wrote up a service order for this entity to check the bilge pump. They did. The good news with respect to this marina is that if you keep your boat there, they get on it right away. The bad news is that they use union labor at about \$150 per hour, and I have yet to see any service that they do in less than an hour. In fact some of our readers have a name for another marina. I believe that they call that entity 'Skipper Ripper.'

Anyhow, I got a call from the service manager telling me that they had done all the troubleshooting. The bilge pump was fried, and I needed a new \$150 bilge pump. Of course that was the good news. In order for them to replace the bilge pump, they told me that they would have to remove the engine, remove the interior seating, replace the pump, and restore the above. It would only cost another \$2,500 in labor. After thinking about this for an eternity (about three seconds) I told them to hold off on this work.

As we know, going out on the water with a failed bilge pump is not a good boating plan. On the other hand, it is of course another incentive to always wear your personal flotation device. So now the boat was out of service. Fortunately I do not keep my boat over winter at the marina. Instead there is an independent service that has a warehouse and does some shop work. I called their manager. He told me that he would do the entire job for under \$300, parts included.

OK. I had my In-Out service launch the boat. I put it on my trailer (saving the proposed \$80 fee to do it) and drove about a half mile to my storage shop guy. Work was done by this entity on time at cost of the large sum of \$200. Work was completed within 3 days. I then loaded up the boat that was on the trailer and took it back to my In-Out service provider.

In the meantime, I also received an invoice for the work that my marina did to troubleshoot the bilge pump. They charged me \$4 for a new fuse. No argument there. They also charged me over \$200 for labor to do this. I emailed them suggesting that this was a bit much. They promptly replied with an extremely detailed explanation of each step the technician took getting the boat from storage, putting it on the rack, troubleshooting the issue, getting off the boat, walking to the parts department, installing and blowing another fuse, etc. etc. All of which he felt justified the time spent and hours charged on my invoice. Fortunately I had almost 300 bonus points with them, which I asked them to apply to my bill. This was worth a whopping \$5, so basically I got the \$4 fuse for free. I might suggest to you, the reader, that when your boat requires repairs, be careful what you do, and how to select your own service provider. Avoid your buddy Skipper Ripper and get a couple of proposals.

Yippee!! The boat was back on the water with my new, operational bilge pump. We had some really good weather on Lake Michigan this summer. Most weekends the waves were moderate, with clear blue skies and comfortable temperatures. And of course, this is why we boat, regardless of our age or the age of our boat. See you on the water next year.



Commander Tony Palazzo's Holiday Party December 11, 2022

Let's kick off the season with a party at the Zingler house. You are all invited to Commander Tony Palazzo's Holiday Party on Sunday December 11th, 2022



12:30 pm Refreshments

2:00 pm A festive Holiday meal and dessert catered by Maggiano's



**1307 Green Knolls Drive
Buffalo Grove, Illinois**

**Please RSVP by December 4th
847-634-3806 or
zingleron@comcast.net**



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62/19



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Running Lights

Skokie Valley Sail and Power Squadron

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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:
sheet bend



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