



# SKOKIE VALLEY SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON

DISTRICT 20

Membership Newsletter - Volume 17 Issue 7

## Running Lights

### July 2017

**Meet up with the Squadron on the Summer Cruise  
to Grand Haven & Ludington, MI July 7—14**



**And the Milwaukee Air & Water Show  
July 14—16**

*Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the Friends <sup>SM</sup>*

**A MESSAGE FROM OUR COMMANDER**



On Saturday June 17<sup>th</sup> Cabela's (Hoffman Estates) held an Outdoor Sports event. They asked Fox Valley Power Squadron to attend and provide someone to be on hand to do Vessel Safety Checks. They didn't have anyone available, so asked if we could be there. I met with Julie Perry, Bill Perry, and Hugh Bartholomees from Fox Valley. We had a good time visiting, but unfortunately, no one brought their boats in for an inspection.



Our ABC ("America's Boating Course") class ran last month in Lake Villa, and all four students passed. Our instructors were Joe Paldo, Tom Clark, Pat Antoni, and Don Sidman.

The Michigan cruise, our biggest cruise event of the year, gets underway on the 7<sup>th</sup> this month. You can still drive to one of the cruise destinations and meet up with the gang for meals, cocktails, or land excursion.

On July 29<sup>th</sup> at the Waukegan Harbor South Peninsula Pier, the Waukegan Power Squadron is hosting a flare shoot which is open to the public. At 10:30 Bill Strauss and Rosanne Turow will do a presentation of various distress signals including aerial and hand held flares. Following the presentation there will be public practice. Bring your own launching pistol and expired flares to practice shooting in a controlled situation.

Please look at new summer issue of the Ensign. There is an article on pages 18 – 21 in which the author, Phil Shelly (a member of the Waukegan Power Squadron) converted a twin engine 42' Carver into a solar-electric hybrid. He has the boat at Southport Marina in Kenosha. I brought this to (our Education Officer) Rich Davidson's attention and the remainder of this column is what he had to say about the subject...

"I have talked about this being inevitable. My boat broker, Brett Eisenhauer at Skipper Bud's says, 'They're coming.' The whole idea seems easy. The motors are not that big, the batteries will come down in price when the Gigafactory is online, there is ample space for those batteries, solar cells will help, shore power is part of your slip fee, and a new Tesla will go 335 miles on a charge. The torque is high, there are no shifters needed, computers can control just about everything, and the cost of 'fuel' is about a tenth of what we now pay. It cannot happen soon enough."

—Cdr. Gary Vinzant, JN




**Skokie Valley Sail & Power Squadron  
2017-2018 Bridge**

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# Mark Your Calendar



## July 2017

5	Wed	Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900	Yen Yen Restaurant, Buffalo Grove
5	Wed	Skokie Valley Breakfast Club, 0900-1000	Market Square, Wheeling
7-16	Fri-Sun	Michigan Summer Cruise	Various Ports (page 7)
15	Sat	Publication Deadline—Running Lights	Karen D'Amico (630-483-9741)
15-16	Sat-Sun	Milwaukee Air & Water Show	Milwaukee, WI (page 8)
19	Wed	Skokie Valley Breakfast Club, 0900-1000	Market Square, Wheeling
29	Sat	Waukegan Squadron Flare Shoot, 1030	Waukegan Harbor South Peninsula

## August 2017

2	Wed	Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900	Yen Yen Restaurant, Buffalo Grove
2	Wed	Skokie Valley Breakfast Club, 0900-1000	Market Square, Wheeling
11-12	Fri-Sat	District 20 Cruise & Rendezvous	Peoria, IL (page 5)
15	Tue	Publication Deadline—Running Lights	Karen D'Amico (630-483-9741)
16	Wed	Skokie Valley Breakfast Club, 0900-1000	Market Square, Wheeling
19-20	Sat-Sun	Chicago Air & Water Show	North Ave Beach, Chicago, IL
30	Wed	Skokie Valley Breakfast Club, 0900-1000	Market Square, Wheeling

## The Majestic Princess Cruise By Stuart Zwang



We flew into Rome and spent two days in the eternal city. The eternal city was overrun with tourists. It reminded me of pictures of large metropolitan cities in Asia (Think Shanghai or Hong Kong). The Vatican Museum of course was earth shattering. The art knocked our socks off (and coats, and everything else we wore).

My wife and I then boarded the latest and greatest...the Majestic Princess. This was her maiden cruise season.



Leaving Rome, the boat played the Love Boat theme on her diesel horns. It did not sound anything like the show of that name. Captain Stubing was replaced by a competent gentleman with an unpronounceable Italian name.

We practiced the abandon boat drill. It reminded me of how I had to teach my family about abandoning ship during the small "smoke event" in our old 19' Sea Ray. That was also when my daughter mastered the fire extinguisher drill. It also reminded me of how large and quiet even Lake Michigan can be when your engine is kaput.

Fear not, for the Power Squadron does have flare shoots, so we know how to signal for help. That is also one of the reasons for my intrinsic interest in flare shoots. In retrospect I had a blast doing it.

But back to the cruise. My wife, the exercise queen / gym rat, refused to let me take the elevator. She was totally correct in that the stairs were faster, and we were able to climb over 5,000 steps per day according to her fit bit.

We did not watch TV. That was actually pretty good. I did not have to laugh at the bachelor or dancing with the stars. I did not have to watch the Cubs lose. My wife did not have to watch endless re-runs of NCIS. It was actually refreshing. When I did go to the health club, there was MSNBC and the BBC. The news did not change.

Princess Cruise has a drink package. It costs \$60 per day per person for unlimited drinks. Neither my wife nor I come close to consuming that amount. For a two week cruise it would be an extra \$1,500 for the two of us. How do you spell rip off? Drink package on Princess Cruises.

Now we come to the food. It was plentiful. Years ago, my wife and I took a cruise on the Carnivore line. That is where we discovered 'cruise food.' Cruise food looks wonderful, but it all tastes the same. After the trip on the Carnivore line, my wife called food that looked good, but had no taste or distinguishing flavor "Cruise Food." This cruise exemplified this.

Continued on the next page...

...Continued from page 3

It reminds me of some of the songs of Tom Lehrer. Dr. Lehrer is a PhD in mathematics from Harvard. He also was a topical folk singer on the old TV show, "That Was The Week That Was." When he sang about the Army, he happily reminisced that his mess sergeant had his taste buds shot away during the war, and it was wonderful and amazing 'the things that they do with plastics nowadays.' You might find that this is a bit of trivia. It is. In fact I won the Trivia contest on the boat, and got a free tote bag. Yippee!

Asking for milk resulted in a strange yellow concoction. I think that it might have been lemonade, but I cannot be sure. It would not have mattered because all of the food was indeed Cruise Food. Let me put it this way by posing a question – How do you mess up scrambled eggs? How do you mess up sausage or bacon for breakfast? The answer is I have no idea, but they mastered it on this cruise. The smoked fish was an outstanding version of cured leather. The coffee was barely potable. All of the pastries looked wonderful, but they all had the same wonderful taste and consistency of plastic. Remember how that dive captain cured me of scuba? This episode of gastronomical splendor was very close to cure me of cruising. Note that he did not have to pay extra for the specialty food or drink package either. The best food we had while on the cruise was in Greece where we stopped at a McDonalds.



Now, you can guess the entire wait staff were graduates of the overseas phone center. They were incredibly nice, but totally unfamiliar with their new ship. They could not give directions on how to get from here to there on the cruise ship. In all fairness, the layout of this ship was not designed for logical thinking people. In order to get to deck six from deck five, you had to go up to deck seven, then take the stairs down to deck six. The phrase "long scenic route" described navigation on this ship.

Now, how about the tours you ask? I think that I could have written the script. It would go something like this: *We are now near \_\_\_\_\_. "This is the (pick one) oldest, most important, most beautiful, significant etc. in the entire country."*

We went to Messina in Italy. We also went to Kotor in Montenegro. Each time we had a guide. Each time the guide took us up to the top of the mountain to see the Best, Oldest, Most Important, Most Beautiful whatever.

Another way to look at this is as the Church Cruise." There are 900 churches in Rome alone. Each one is the most important, most beautiful, significant etc. Kotor had one church for every ten people.


The roads that were available are easily described as exceptionally narrow, dangerous, and winding. Most had a minimum of 20 hairpin turns. There were no guard rails on the roads. There were extra wide buses and trucks going up and down these roads. They would stop for each other and in many cases back up so the other vehicle could barely scrape by. Frankly, I thought that I would be a bit concerned about driving on these roads. This was reinforced by the half dozen assorted religious medals that were dangling on all the rear view mirrors of all the autos that I looked into. In fact, I thought about people who might drink and drive in these areas. Quite simply, the police do not have to prosecute drunken drivers. Any person who drives after a couple of drinks goes over the side of the mountain and into the bay. It is only a half mile plunge. End of problem. Certainly Mr. Darwin would congratulate himself once again as this being proof of his survival of the fittest; as those whose behavior is reckless has indeed removed himself from the gene pool.



We went to a number of famed Greek Islands and Kotor Montenegro. Again, they had churches all over. There was even a single church in the middle of a bay. It was called the Church of our Lady. You can see it through the windshield of a tour boat. O.K., I could not let my friends at Skokie Valley Power Squadron down. See, I even wore our logo sweat shirt

In Chios, the 400 years of Ottoman occupation was memorialized by the skulls in a church cabinet. Note the skull wounds with an exact image of a sword or bayonet



There was something for everyone at the tourist shops. My wife, of course gravitated to the jewelry shops. I made sure that there was something for those of us with other interests. 



# JOIN US IN PEORIA

## Friday & Saturday, 11-12 August 2017

UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS, DISTRICT 20  
2017 CRUISE & RENDEZVOUS

HOSTED BY DUPAGE SAIL & POWER SQUADRON

### FRIDAY NIGHT

Peoria Chiefs vs Burlington 7:00 p.m., \$10-15 / tickets (pay at gate)

OR

Dinner with group (restaurant TBD), meet at restaurant 7 p.m.



### SATURDAY

ILLINOIS VALLEY YACHT CLUB (IVY Club), 5102 North Galena Road, Peoria Heights

#### Morning

- 8 a.m. Coffee and pastries at IVY Club (no charge)
- 9 a.m. Asian Carp Invasion Presentation
- 11 a.m. Council Meeting
- 12 Noon Lunch at IVY Club



#### Afternoon

- 1:30 p.m. Board Spirit of Peoria for two-hour boat tour  
(leaves downtown Peoria dock at 2 p.m.) (\$16/person; pay at boarding)

OR

Boat ride on District 20 members' boats

**Please register by 28 July.**

Send registration form via e-mail ([a-donkers@comcast.net](mailto:a-donkers@comcast.net)) or mail to:  
Anita Donkers, 8 East Rickard Drive, Oswego, Illinois 60543

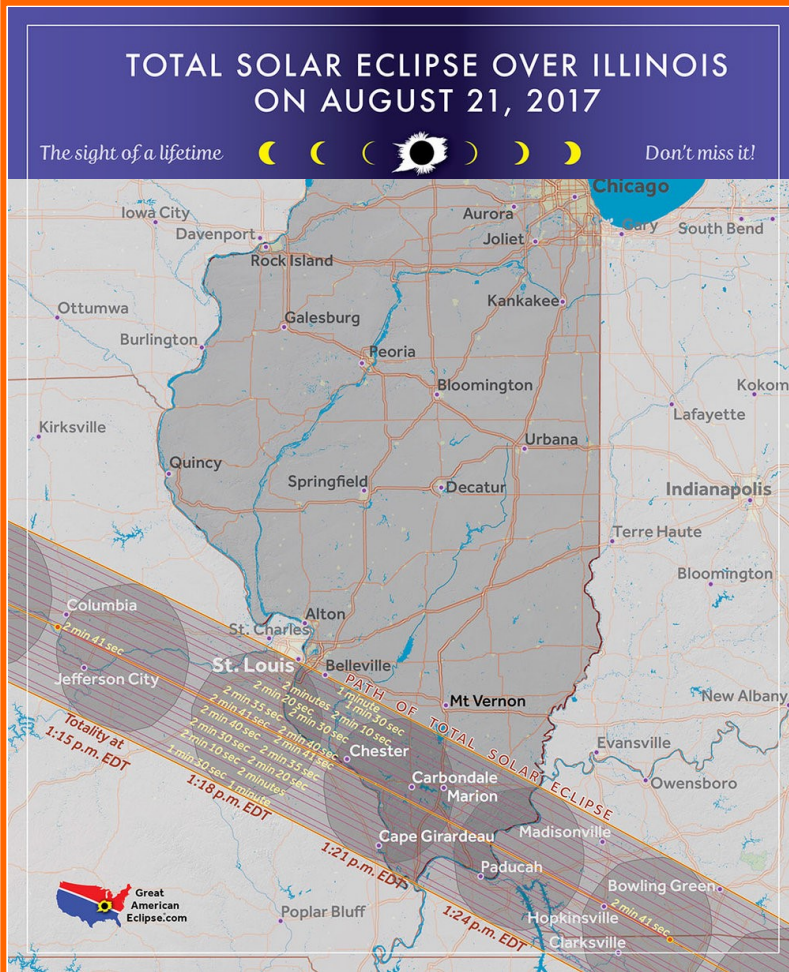
### ACCOMMODATIONS

Make reservations by searching Trivago, Orbitz, Hotwire, or another search engine of your choice. We found hotel prices from \$60 (Super8) to \$110 (Stoney Creek) and up. **PLEASE NOTE THAT SOME RESERVATIONS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE.**



# YOUR WEATHER REPORT

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



## Once in a Lifetime Event

On August 21 of this year, you will have the only opportunity in your lifetime to see a total solar eclipse in the United States. It will cross the country starting in Oregon and ending in South Carolina.

It will cross the country in a period of about 90 minutes. The last time this happened in the United States was 99 years ago.

According to the experts, there is a unique time and place of the total eclipse that you need to be to fully experience it. You will need to travel to Southern Illinois or Western Kentucky, as shown on the map.

This amounts to about a 6-hour drive. I am told that motels in the path of the eclipse are booked, but I am sure there are places further away will have space available.

If you decide to travel to enjoy this once in a lifetime event, let us hope it will be a clear sunny day.

Map courtesy of Michael Zeiler [GreatAmericanEclipse.com](http://GreatAmericanEclipse.com)

## OUR GREAT LAKES, OUR GREATEST RESOURCE

Consider getting a rain barrel to help conserve water, reduce your water bill, and reduce sewer runoff.

Rain water is actually better than city water for watering your garden. It does not contain chlorine and fluoride, which is in the city water and is undesirable for plants.

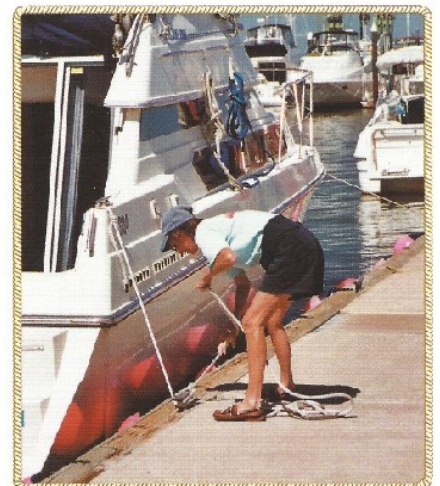
In urban areas, much of the rain runoff that goes into the storm sewers is full of debris picked up along the way from roofs, driveways, and roads. Adding a rain barrel captures water and reduces the runoff. This in turn reduces the amount of trash, oil, dirt and other contaminants going into the sewer and back into our water supply.

For safety, it's important that a rain barrel is covered to prevent children or animals from accidentally falling in.

Also, you should cover it with a very fine screen to prevent mosquitos from getting into the rain barrel. Experts recommend you empty the barrel at least every 10 days to prevent mosquito breeding.



### CAPTAIN AHAB'S QUIZ



To “\_\_\_\_\_” a line means to secure it to a cleat.

(see answer on back page)

Tom Clark, AP, Contributing Editor  
Courtesy of Perchant Publishing





## 2017 Event & Cruising Schedule

Date	Event	Location	Host
July 7-16, 2017 Friday-Sunday	Michigan Cruise	Grand Haven, Ludington, Manitowoc, Milwaukee	Ron Zingler, Tony Palazzo, and Dave Anthony
July 15-16 Saturday-Sunday	Milwaukee Air & Water Show	McKinley Marina Milwaukee	Ron & Joanne Zingler
August 12 Saturday	D20 Cruise & Rendezvous	Ivy Club, Peoria IL	District 20 & DuPage Squadron
August 19-20, 2017 Saturday-Sunday	Chicago Air & Water Show	North Avenue Beach, Chicago	FYI
September 6-9, 2017 Wednesday-Saturday	Antique Classic Boat Show	Racine, WI	Jim & Pam Beck
September 10, 2017 Sunday	September Dinner Meeting	TBD	TBD
September 13-16 Wednesday-Saturday	USPS Governing Board Meeting	Dallas, TX	USPS
September 22-25, 2017 Friday-Monday	House Boat River Cruise	LaCrosse, WI to St. Paul, MN	Ron Zingler & Pat Antoni
October 14, 2017	Dinner Meeting & Trolley Tour of Chicago, IL	Chicago, IL	Ron Zingler
February 16, 2018— March 2, 2018	Panama Canal Cruise, Norwegian Star Cruise Ship	Miami, Columbia, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Acapul- co, Cabo San Lucas, Los Angeles	Ron Zingler

### Summer Cruise to Grand Haven, MI July 7<sup>th</sup> 2017

Join us for any part of the cruise by boat or car as we tour the coast of Michigan and Wisconsin. We are also planning a Milwaukee Air and Water Show event—see page 8 for information. Our cruise plan is as follows:

Date	Day	Leave	Arrive	Harbor	Miles	Things To Do
July 7	Friday	Kenosha, WI	Grand Haven, MI 616-842-1202	Municipal Marina	85	Shop, Cruise
July 10	Monday	Grand Haven, MI	Ludington, MI 231-843-6032	Harbor View Marina	67	Shop & Party
July 12	Wednesday	Ludington, MI	Manitowoc, WI 920-682-5117	Manitowoc Marina	60	USS Cobia 17
July 14	Friday	Manitowoc, WI	Milwaukee, WI 414-273-5224	McKinley Marina	79	Air & Water Show
July 16	Sunday	Milwaukee, WI	Kenosha, WI	Southport	35	Home

Contact Ron Zingler for additional information 847.634.3806 or at [zingleron@comcast.net](mailto:zingleron@comcast.net)

## MILWAUKEE AIR AND WATER SHOW CRUISE - JULY 14-16

**RESERVATIONS ARE BEING TAKEN NOW FOR SLIPS  
AT MCKINLEY MARINA.**



Book your slip now at the McKinley Marina in Milwaukee to have an awesome view of the US Navy Blue Angels. The Milwaukee Air and Water Show located at the beautiful Milwaukee Lakefront, between Bradford Beach and McKinley Beach, with the show center-point located at 2272 North Lincoln Memorial Drive, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

**Friday, July 14th: Air show practice**  
**Saturday, July 15th: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM**  
**Sunday, July 16th; 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM**

Performers include US Navy Blue Angels, US Army Golden Knights and Team Aerostars...subject to change

Visit: [www.milwaukeeairshow.com](http://www.milwaukeeairshow.com) for air show details

Visit [www.milwaukee.org](http://www.milwaukee.org) for more information on hotels and other activities in Milwaukee

### **COME BY BOAT...**

McKinley Marina: 1750 North Lincoln Drive, Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
The marina manager will try to group the SVPS boats together depending on size and availability.

**RESERVE YOUR SLIP NOW and ask for K Dock! (414)273-5224**

### **COME BY CAR...**

Drive up and spend a day with squadron members on their boat.  
Contact Ron and Joanne Zingler with inquiries.

**Ron Zingler: 847.634.3806 or 847.946.2516 or [zingleron@comcast.net](mailto:zingleron@comcast.net)**



# Middle Bay Lighthouse

Middle of Mobile Bay, Alabama

30°26'17.60 "N  
88°0'40.48"W

First built 1885  
Original lens -  
Fourth order Fresnel 1885  
Automated 1935  
Deactivated 1967  
Current lens -  
FI 6s. bell struck by  
Machinery every 5 seconds

Lighthouse placed on  
National Historic List 1974

Became real time weather station  
2003  
Still running  
Visit [www.mymobile.com](http://www.mymobile.com)

Height 41 feet  
Focal height 48 feet



George took this photo a few years ago when we went to this bay to join Dick and Dorothy Hughes for the western route of the Great Circle Trip from Mobile Alabama to Waukegan Harbor. This hexagonal shaped cottage style-piling lighthouse is offshore of Mobile, Alabama, in the center of Mobile Bay.

The Mobile Bay is quite shallow, and in the early 1800's the best shipping channel was marked by wooden stakes and copper-clad barrels. It wasn't until a channel was dredged to seventeen feet so that large vessels could safely reach Mobile that shipping increased.

In 1916, the keeper's wife gave birth to a baby, that summer, at the station. According to the Alabama Lighthouse Association, the keeper brought a dairy cow to the station and put it on the lower deck because his wife was unable to nurse the newborn baby. Picture the cow walking around the lower level, the link at right column. Everyone had to be evacuated that same year when a hurricane hit the lighthouse; the lighthouse did survive, but was damaged. Today the lighthouse has a real life weather station.

Submitted by: Bridget Doerner, N

Photo by: George H. Doerner, SN

## July Anniversaries

Jennifer Fergus	2014	3 yrs
Michael Palazzo	2008	9 yrs
Stephanie Palazzo	2008	9 yrs
James Geske	2007	10 yrs
Dorothy Hughes	2005	12 yrs
Clark Sanford	1994	24 yrs
Bud Lemke	1984	34 yrs

Congratulations on reaching another milestone with the squadron. We appreciate your support!  
**Cdr Gary Vinzant, JN**



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22/22

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4/19



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6/13

# Winter Cruise February 16<sup>th</sup> 2018 Two Week Panama Canal Cruise



Hop onboard the Norwegian Star for a two week Panama Canal Cruise with fellow squadron members, family, and friends.

The Norwegian Star cruise ship will depart from Miami on February 16, 2018, sail through the entire canal, and end at Los Angeles, March 2, 2018. The visiting ports are Columbia, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Acapulco and Cabo San Lucas.

By booking now, a refundable \$250 deposit per person is necessary. The cruise line is offering drink packages, special dining packages, shore excursions discounts, and free WI-FI.

With 7 or more cabins, additional discounts will be available for all the cruisers. As of April 10th, we have 5 couples cruising.

If interested, contact Christopher Swain at Norwegian Cruise Lines **877-416-9722 x44391**. He will assist you with any details and booking.

FYI: Miami Boat Show begins February 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Thinking about going?**  
 Feel free to contact: Ron Zingler  
 847.946.2516C or 847.634.3806  
 zingleron@comcast.net



# Mississippi Fall River Cruise

Friday-Monday, September 22 to 25

Hop on board and cruise the Mighty Mississippi River from Alma, WI. Take a three day weekend cruise and view the rolling green bluffs and ever changing fall colors. Have fun at Octoberfest in Wabasha, MN or drop anchor on some of the sandy island beaches.



Boating or captain experience is not required because the professional instructors make certain you are comfortable at the helm.

Rental Information: Fun 'N The Sun Houseboat Vacations  
S2221 Highway 35, Alma, WI 54610  
888.343.5670 or [funsun.com](http://funsun.com)



The fleet of 9 houseboats range from 32 to 61 feet and up to 6 queen staterooms. Get together and share a boat with other couples.



Houseboat rental starts at \$675 and is \$2695 for a 61 foot.  
A 60 foot is \$2395, 58 foot is \$2195 and 56 is \$1895.  
A 10% senior or military discount is also offered.



Prior to further details and planning, please let me know if you are interested in cruising on the Mississippi by May 25th so we can reserve our boats.

Contact Ron Zingler  
cell 847.946.2516  
[zingleron@comcast.net](mailto:zingleron@comcast.net)

For more activities, check out [www.WIgreatriverroad.org](http://www.WIgreatriverroad.org)

# 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 internet sites:

**Skokie Valley Sail & Power Squadron:**

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

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

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

**Safety:** [www.safeboatingcampaign.com](http://www.safeboatingcampaign.com)



Captain Ahab answer:

belay



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