



**SKOKIE VALLEY SAIL
AND POWER SQUADRON**

DISTRICT 20

Membership Newsletter - Volume 20 Issue 7

Running Lights

July 2020

Have a
Happy
4TH of
JULY



A MESSAGE FROM OUR COMMANDER

No need to talk about shelter in place any more. We have lived it for a third of this year.

As we enter Phase 4, the “Revitalization” part of Governor Pritzker’s process for returning to normal, we all know that normal will be different going forward. Zoom meetings are cool, no dressing up, no commuting, less time taken from your other pursuits, and lots of things like webinars are being created to get customers and members. So, we should be doing more of that. I expect to see our education program migrate in that direction, and I hope some will say that doing the class meetings online is not all bad. It is that many times you do not have to drive some distance to where the class was being held. Moreover, we do not have to pay rent or beg for the meeting room.


Just to break that mold, I am holding the next Executive Committee meeting at my house, so we can meet and greet once this boating season. After that, the members of the Bridge can say that they did at least one event this summer in a live gathering.

The part of life that should not change is the boating itself. Mine has been in the water since the beginning of May. By now, everyone should be parked in a slip. I am finding that restaurants and places of interest in New Buffalo, MI, where I have my slip for this season, are open and doing business. The half capacity rules are there, masks are being worn prior to seating, going into stores, or getting carry out food items, so the public seems to be getting with the program. After this pandemic fades away by getting everyone vaccinated or by other means, we should be better off when the next one shows up.

Also, we are rapidly migrating to a world of no cash, online ordering, remote access to almost all meetings, and home schooling via computer. Those features will be favored by people so much that the old ways of shopping and meeting will be avoided, except where necessary. We will still visit the grocery stores, shop for items that are not easily bought online, see the health care folks, etc., but more of our life will be centered around living at home, working remotely, getting schooling via Zoom, and electronically doing much of what we used to do in person.

That is the new paradigm. The chapters of America’s Boating Club will adapt to them, go back to teaching classes, attract new members, and enjoy a blend of the old and new way of doing things.

—Cdr. Rich Davidson, SN



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2019-2020 Bridge**

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Mark Your Calendar



July 2020

1	Wed	Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900	Contact Rich Davidson
1	Wed	Skokie Valley Breakfast Club, 0900-1000	TBD
15	Wed	Skokie Valley Breakfast Club, 0900-1000	TBD
15	Wed	Publication Deadline—Running Lights	Karen D’Amico (224-238-7372)
29	Wed	Skokie Valley Breakfast Club, 0900-1000	TBD

August 2020

5	Wed	Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900	Zoom Meeting—Contact Rich Davidson
12	Wed	Skokie Valley Breakfast Club, 0900-1000	TBD
15	Sat	Publication Deadline—Running Lights	Karen D’Amico (224-238-7372)
26	Wed	Skokie Valley Breakfast Club, 0900-1000	TBD

USPS Governing Board Meeting Tuesday Sept 8 - Sunday 13, 2020



Hilton Raleigh North Hills
3415 Wake Forest Rd,
Raleigh, NC 27609

The Hilton Raleigh North Hills is less than two miles from North Hills shopping and dining. Downtown Raleigh, the North Carolina State Capitol, and the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences are within 10 minutes.

The hotel's free shuttle will take you to and from North Hills and Raleigh-Durham International Airport, 14 miles away. Enjoy the indoor pool, fitness center, and free WiFi. Free parking is provided. Enjoy dining and socializing in '88 Oaks Carolina Kitchen and Bar for Southern favorites including Fried Green Tomatoes and Smoked Carolina Country Ribs. There is a Starbucks available in the lobby lounge, and room service is available 6 am – 12 am.



- Free Shuttle To/From Airport/Hotel
- Free Internet Throughout Hotel
- Free Self-Parking
- Free Tour of USPS Headquarters (Advance Registration Required)
- New America’s Boating Clubhouse to play games, cards, puzzles with friends
- Fabulous Indoor Pool
- Restaurant in Hotel, and Restaurants Within Walking Distance
- So many more!



The National Meetings Committee published the June 2020 Raleigh Newsletter providing more information about the upcoming meeting, activities, dress code, etc. There is a link to the detailed agenda for committee meeting times and locations. This issue also includes an interesting “**Brief History of Raleigh**”.

<https://www.usps.org/php/reservations/documents/202006192106470.June2020rev2NEWS.pdf>



YOUR WEATHER REPORT

By Mike Hennessy, AP, Instructor-Weather course



Summer Weather

The season most of us wait for every year is finally here. The days will continue to get longer, June 20 being the longest, but you won't notice the days getting shorter until September.

The summer brings us warmer temperatures and more humidity. While most of us enjoy the warmth, I think the majority would agree the humidity not as desirable.

The warm temperatures are due to two major reasons. The jet stream stays further North, not allowing the colder arctic temperature to come South. With the jet stream up north, the warmer tropical weather is allowed to move north for our enjoyment. Unfortunately, warm humid air brings the chance of evening showers to be a possibility every day. Because the air is so humid any drop in the evening temperature can cause sudden showers or even sever showers because cooler air cannot hold the same amount of moisture as warm air.

With the changes in global weather we have to be more aware of tropical storms. As of this writing there have been three tropical storms that originated in the gulf or Caribbean. In the past we could see a tropical storm form in the Atlantic and slowly move towards the United States. While this is still possible, we must be more aware of storms developing in our own neighborhood. Let's look forward to a pleasant summer and enjoyable weather.



OUR GREAT LAKES, OUR GREATEST RESOURCE

The covid-19 pandemic makes it hard to plan trips this summer, especially those that involve flying somewhere. Not surprisingly, boating, camping and other outdoor activities are seeing a surge in popularity.



You may be familiar with the Great Lakes Circle Tour. As a kid, we spent a lot of time in Wisconsin and Michigan, and those iconic signs are all along the lakefront.

Recently I came across this website where a woman outlined the 10 day trip she took with her kids around the Great Lakes. Her itinerary includes all their stops for food, lodging, state parks, waterfalls and lighthouses they visited. She even includes a map of the trip, and many photos taken along the way.

<https://backroadplanet.com/great-lakes-tour/>

They started the trip in Stoughton Wisconsin, so they drove up to Duluth Minnesota for the first stop on Lake Superior. Then they traveled clockwise around the lakes. This article was a nice reminder of the natural beauty and many wonders that are so close to us in the Great Lakes area. Get out and enjoy them!

CAPTAIN AHAB'S QUIZ



Speed Table

RPM	East-West Time	Speed (Knots)	West-East Time	Speed (Knots)	Average Speed (Knots)
600	9:22	6.41	9:26	6.36	6.04
1,000	7:28	8.04	7:32	7.96	8.00
1,500	5:36	10.71	5:42	10.53	10.62
2,000	3:28	17.31	3:38	16.51	16.91
2,500	2:48	21.43	2:56	20.45	20.94
3,000	2:24	25.00	2:38	22.78	23.89
3,500	2:04	29.03	2:08	28.13	28.58
4,000	1:50	32.73	1:52	32.40	32.57

$$\text{Speed} = \frac{3600 \text{ seconds}}{\text{Time (seconds)}}$$

$$\text{Average Speed} = \frac{\text{E/W Time} + \text{W/E Time}}{2}$$

A handy speed table can be calculated using the above formulas and determining the time required to travel a ___ nautical mile course in both directions.

(see answer on back page)

Tom Clark, AP, Contributing Editor
Courtesy of Perchant Publishing



SVPS 2020 Event & Cruising Schedule



When	Event	Location	Host
Cancelled	COSI (Children's Oncology Services) Boat Day	Southport Marina, WI	Ron Zingler
Cancelled	Southern Lake Michigan Summer Cruise	South Haven, MI - St. Joseph, MI - Hammond, IN	Tony Palazzo
Sept 3-5, 10-12, and 17-19	Summerfest 2020 experience moves to September!	Milwaukee, WI	Ron Zingler
September 8-13 Tuesday-Sunday	USPS Governing Board Meeting	Hilton Raleigh North Hills Raleigh, NC	USPS
September 13th Sunday	September Member Meeting	Club Casa, Des Plaines, IL	Ron Zingler
September 26th Saturday	Hob Nob Sundowner	Racine, WI	Ron Zingler
October 18th Sunday	October Member Meeting	TBD	Ron Zingler
November 14th Saturday	Anniversary Dinner Meeting	TBD	Ron Zingler
December 13th Sunday	Commanders Holiday Party	TBD	Commander

Keynote Speaker Breakfast at the Fall Governing Board Meeting Thursday, September 10th, 7:30-8:45 AM

Kevin P. Duffs is an award winning author who has published four books and produced four award-winning documentary films on North Carolina maritime history. He has done extensive research on Outer Banks shipwrecks, World War II and German U-boats off the North Carolina coast, and the history of southern lighthouses during the War Between the States.

Kevin will speak about the World War II events off North Carolina's Outer Banks. In 1942, the United States suffered one of its worst defeats of WWII, not in Europe or the Pacific, but along the nation's eastern seaboard. For six months, German U-boats hunted merchant vessels, practically unopposed, within view of the coastal communities. Amazingly, 397 ships were sunk or damaged and 5,000 people died during these attacks. Kevin has compiled a stunning collection of eyewitness stories of merchant sailors, Coast Guard recruits and coastal residents who survived the event. Come hear this historical story.

Advanced registration required. You can do so online using the Event Reservation page on the national meetings website

https://www.usps.org/php/reservations_new/meetings.php?mtg_id=39



2020 Fall Governing Board
Raleigh, North Carolina

Shakey Shake Down Cruise, by Stuart Zwang

Well, here it is again. A new boating season. Except that it is not the same. With Covid 19, Ron Zingler tells us that he will be spending more time in his *Floating Condominium*. (Perhaps a good name for a new boat.)

I keep my boat at the IN/OUT service at Larsen Marina in Waukegan. This year they are closed on Mondays to reflect the cleaning requirements. We used to just drive there and go. Now they require us to make an appointment to pick up our boat. They tell us that we must limit ourselves to two on the boat. And we have to pay Larsen Marine about \$2,000 for the privilege. Well, as the Chinese Proverb/ Goodwill saying states –‘May you live in interesting times.’ Nevertheless we decided to do the best that we could under the circumstances.

To start with, I charged up the two batteries, and retrieved the two aluminum props from the machine shop. (I had not taken them there for a couple of years, so I thought it was time.) They were in pretty good shape (a shocker!!!) The machine shop charged me a total of \$75 (cash of course) for some minor tweaks as well as new paint. Then I got my 23’ open bow Larson trailer boat from my winter storage facility. Of course they had to replace the impeller, change the oil, fill the hydraulic for the outdrive tilt mechanism, install the batteries and a new prop. After storage, it cost me about \$2,200 to ransom my boat back. I waxed, and cleaned the boat. That took me about 10 hours total. Now we were ready!

I called Gary Vinzant and he was kind enough to come over to my driveway and do the Vessel Safety Check. On 31 May 2020 he came over. I took out the stored personal floatation devices, GPS, flares, line, fire extinguishers, air horn, etc. He helped me put it into the boat. All the lights worked. I sweated bullets trying to find the registration document, but finally found it where I had put it last year. (My ships log in the ‘dash board’ compartment.) All set. In fact Gary was kind enough to apply the red VSC decal. He even pointed out that it matched my boat and tow vehicle.

The next Thursday we brought it to Larsen. Before we got it in the water, I made sure that the boat plug was properly installed. We went out onto Lake Michigan for our shakey (oops shake down) cruise. The Lake was flat, but it was windy and cool. Upon reflection, both Lorri and I decided that discretion was the better part of valor. We went back. This was where I discovered that I had not brought all the necessary line and was missing a fender. That is what the shake down cruise is for. As I wrestled the line, I managed to trip over the two shopping bags full of boating stuff. (Binoculars, garbage bags, spare batteries, etc.) No big deal. Except that when I tripped, I also hit the boat hook. Again, no big deal. Except that it bonked poor Lorri on the head. We have to work on keeping the interior of the boat clear of stuff such as these bags and our cooler.

We docked and went home. Going home meant that I would have to help Lorri keep up her garden. This seems like a full time job. Her garden is beautiful. But in order to get it started this year, I had to haul an honest 2,000 pounds of mulch, stone, topsoil, etc.

Since this is a trailer boat, we took the trailer home. I take pride in keeping my stuff clean. So, I decided to wax the trailer. (Perhaps I do have too much time on my hands.) As I waxed it, one of the reflectors fell off. No problem, I am an artist with Crazy Glue. As you know, this glue can attach all kinds of materials together in less than ten seconds. I think that I have repaired more vases, kids’ science projects, garden gnomes and bathroom sets than most. So, out came the glue.

This was a new, one use tube. Most tubes require the user to break off the tip. So, I screwed the tip down and tried to break the tip off. This tube already had the tip broken off. Thus, when I tried to break the tip off, all the glue immediately spewed onto my fingers. This properly and immediately affixed my thumb, index and forefingers of my right hand to the tube. I could not move them. Picture an unhappy, excited camper. That was me. Fortunately I had read an article about the many important uses of WD 40. I ran into the garage and with great relief found my WD 40. I sprayed and sprayed, until finally I could remove my fingers from the tube.

I hope that this will be a busy boating season. That way this episode with Crazy Glue would not be eligible for any type of boating award. Enjoy the season!



We have to work on keeping the interior of the boat clear of stuff such as these bags and our cooler.

After celebrating Joel's amazing 100 year life and legacy last month, we were so sorry to hear about his passing. Joel was a long time member of Skokie Valley for 49 years. You may remember him best as pictured below with his late wife Enid, who was always by his side.

If you read the many celebrations of his life, you know Joel was a strong supporter of education programs throughout the community. He was with Northwestern University for 53 years, where he retired as Associate Dean of the McCormick School of Engineering in 2000. He served for 21 years as a board member on the Palatine Township Elementary School District 15. In 2011, the learning center at Carl Sandburg Jr High in Rolling Meadows was named the Meyer Media Center in his honor.



Joel held a full certificate of USPS courses to earn the title of Senior Navigator. And he was awarded our own Nigel N White Education Award for his outstanding contributions to the educational efforts of Skokie Valley in 1979.



July Anniversaries

Bonni Breen	2018	2 yrs
Michael & Stephanie Palazzo	2008	12 yrs
Dorothy Hughes	2005	15 yrs
Bud Lemke	1984	37 yrs

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

Cdr Rich Davidson, SN

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36/19

Running Lights

Skokie Valley Sail and Power Squadron

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FIRST CLASS MAIL



Be sure to visit our websites:

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www.skokievalleypowersquadron.org

District 20: www.uspsd20Boating.org

USPS: www.AmericasBoatingClub.org



Captain Ahab answer:
"one" nautical mile



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