



Membership Newsletter - Volume 20 Issue 6

Running Lights

June 2020

Congratulations to Skokie Valley member Joel Meyer who just turned 100 years old!!

Joel was born May 9, 1920. He joined USPS in 1972 and has 46 merit marks





A MESSAGE FROM OUR COMMANDER

As we move into the real boating season, June is when the warm weather is here to stay, I look forward to more of what I am doing at home – staying there, but finding some great things to do indoors and outside in my back yard and walking the dog around the neighborhood. The same things happen on a boat. You bask in the sun in the cockpit, listen to your entertainment system, read from your list of favorites, keep up with the news, eat, sleep, watch the TV, and talk to your neighbors, from your side of the fence. The dog gets walked, the deck gets washed, and clothes get cleaned, the everyday things in life look so much the same on your boat as they did at home in the winter. In these times, you can also surf the Internet, do emails, watch streaming videos, rent Netflix, and yak on the iPhone. Nothing like doing all that domestic stuff on your boat, however. The scenery is lovely.

I moved my boat from Winthrop Harbor, IL to New Buffalo, MI on Memorial Day weekend. A little fog at first, but with zero waves and near zero wind, it was one really fun ride for 63 nm at 20 mph for about 3.5 hours. My auto helm is linked to my chart plotter and radar, so all I had to do was set the waypoint and turn on auto tracking, and let the system do the rest. I did not touch the wheel or adjust the throttles until the last minute at the harbor entrance. Easy peasy. That is what boating can be, weather permitting.

We did our District 20 Change of Watch and Council Meeting online on May 23. Like all such meetings these days, it was convenient. No traveling, no hotel bills, everyone who needed to be there showed up, the Chief Commander, Mary Paige Abbott, did a nice presentation on, "Membership is Job One," borrowing from the old Ford slogan about quality, but even she saw opportunity in our new online diaspora. New members can take classes online, and we know who they are and can try to get them to join our squadron if they live in our area. We simply need to leverage this new Zoom paradigm.

One result of the COW for D20 is that Stuart Zwang is your new District Administrative Officer, and I am your new Assistant District Education Officer. Pat Antoni is the chair of the District 20 Rules Committee.

I would like to find ways to have our monthly member meetings, if online, be worth attending. What I need are suggestions for someone to speak to us on an interesting topic, or a video worth watching collectively on a boating story. We need to be creative and continue our interaction even in these times when being at the same event physically is not a good idea. On my boat I plan to have some of my ham radio gear on board and see how many friends I can continue to make in far off places. Technology sometimes has the answer to our needs. One suggestion is to do Boat Operator Certification (BOC) courses online for all of us that still have an interest in upgrading our piloting skills.

—Cdr. Rich Davidson, SN



**Skokie Valley Sail & Power Squadron
2019-2020 Bridge**

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	Don Sidman, JN	847-726-7309

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Mark Your Calendar



June 2020

3	Wed	Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900	Zoom Meeting—Contact Rich Davidson
3	Wed	Skokie Valley Breakfast Club, 0900-1000	TBD
13	Sat	Fishing Derby and North Point Sundowner	Canceled
15	Mon	Publication Deadline—Running Lights	Karen D'Amico (224-238-7372)
17	Wed	Skokie Valley Breakfast Club, 0900-1000	TBD

July 2020

1	Wed	Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900	Zoom Meeting—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

UMPQUA RIVER LIGHTHOUSE

This lighthouse is located at the mouth of the river at Winchester Bay in Oregon. The first Umpqua River Light was built in 1855 and lit in 1857; it was the first lighthouse on the Oregon Coast. The original light was vulnerable to seasonal flooding; it fell into the swollen water in October 1863. The Light House Board had foreseen the need to build a new light at the location, but it was 1888 before Congress approved the construction of a new light. The lighthouse shown in this article was started in 1890 and was illuminated in 1894.

The 65-foot tower is situated on a hill that is 100 feet above sea level and the U.S. Coast Guard buildings and a museum surround it. The Umpqua Light shines with a first order Fresnel lens made of 616 glass prisms and weighs two tons. The light used a clockwork mechanism to rotate the Fresnel lens and was automated in 1966. This rotation mechanism served the light for 89 years, but it broke down and was removed. The Coast Guard, in charge of the light at this point, wanted to replace the mechanism with a new one. However, strong public outcry forced the Coast Guard to replace the old mechanism after it had been fully restored.

Today the light and museum are maintained by Douglas County Parks, they offer tours from May 1 through October 30th from 10 am to 4 pm. Although we were not with the U.S. Lighthouse Society on a tour, because of the park tours we were able to tour this lighthouse. This is not always easy to do, so if there are any lighthouse fans out there, we recommend checking with the U. S. Lighthouse Society and joining them on one of their many tours:

U.S. Lighthouse Society
9005 Point No Point Rd. NE
Hansville, WA 98340
www.Uslhs.org

The society conducts tours all over the United States and they also offer International Tours.

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





YOUR WEATHER REPORT

By Mike Hennessy, AP, Instructor-Weather course



Weather Systems

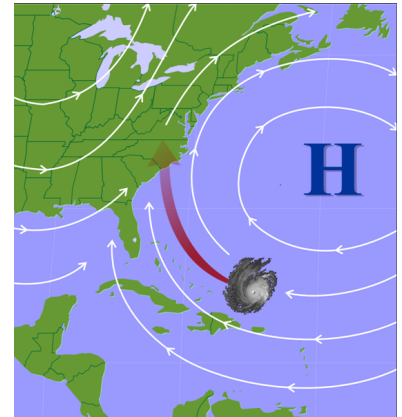
Whenever you see the weather on the television, the weather person will always be talking about low-pressure and high-pressure. The reason they do this is because any weather we will experience is influenced by either a high- or low-pressure system, sometimes both.

All low-pressure systems are accompanied by fronts. There will be a warm front and a cold front. The exception to this is a tropical storm or hurricane. They don't have fronts. The low-pressure system is usually associated with warm and wet weather. The high-pressure system is associated with cooler and dryer air. The High does not have fronts.

A high-pressure system will dominate a low-pressure system. Thus, if you are under the influence of a high-pressure system, a low-pressure system will stay away until the high-pressure system moves out. The winds of a low-pressure system are counter clockwise. If a high-pressure system is stable, meaning it is not moving, then an approaching low-pressure system will stall or move around the high pressure. Since the winds of a high-pressure system move in a clockwise direction, the low will move to the North of the high.

An example of this is all weather systems crossing the United States will end up over New England instead of Florida because of a stationary High-pressure system that sits over Bermuda. This high pressure system also acts as a block that hurricanes cannot penetrate, which is why they typically go up the east coast and out to sea.

The next time you watch a weather forecast, pay attention to how the lows and the highs are moving and you will have a better understanding of the changing weather.



OUR GREAT LAKES, OUR GREATEST RESOURCE

As you can see in this issue, we had to cancel our Lake Michigan summer cruise due to the flooding in the marinas. The heavy rainfall in the month of May drove even higher water levels in the southern Great Lakes regions. Lake Michigan and Huron are expected to peak above last year's water levels this summer.

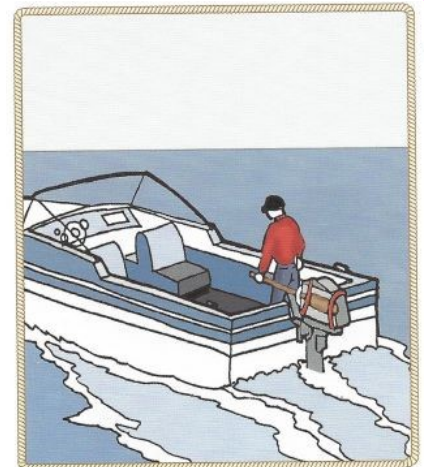


In the second half of May alone, Lake Michigan and Lake Huron rose a little over three inches due to rain. That may not sound like a lot, but it equates to about 2.4 trillion gallons of water. Did you know, 2.4 trillion gallons is equal to only 8 days of water usage for the entire USA.

A big contributor to the increasing water level was the rain that fell directly on the lakes. On average, Lake Michigan had at least two inches of rain, but the southern end of the lake had more like 3-5 inches of rain in the last few weeks of May.

While Lake Michigan and Lake Huron received the heaviest rainfall, Lake Erie also increased four inches in the last two weeks of May. In contrast, Lake Superior remained flat, and Lake Ontario is down about an inch.

CAPTAIN AHAB'S QUIZ



Assuming your steering system has frozen, control can be regained by disconnecting the "___ - ___" fitting located by the engine & lashing an oar to the engine, as shown above.

(see answer on back page)

Tom Clark, AP, Contributing Editor
Courtesy of Perchant Publishing



SVPS 2020 Event & Cruising Schedule



When	Event	Location	Host
Cancelled	Lake Michigan Fishing Derby	North Point, IL	Dave Anthony
Cancelled	Sundowner	North Point, IL	Tony Palazzo, Sue & Dave Anthony
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 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

Unfortunately, our Cruise to Southern Lake Michigan this summer had to be cancelled due to the flooding. This is the South Haven Marina in Michigan, which was one of our destinations. This picture was taken at the beginning of May and the water is expected to keep rising another 4-8 inches over the summer.



Submitted by our Cruise Captain, Tony Palazzo

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



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

Tues Sept 8, 1800-2230
Raleigh Beer Trail

Love to taste the local independent IPAs! Come with us and sample the options. You will be transported to 4 or 5 downtown Raleigh breweries. You can partake in a variety of locally brewed craft beers and unique foods at your own expense. These venues are all within a few blocks of each other and have unique décor. You will board the motor coach which will whisk you away to a beer lover's getaway and no worries about driving or taking a cab! This tour has a limit of 35. The price for this tour is transportation only. Food and beverage is on your own. Drink responsibly!

Wed Sept 9, 0830-1130
Tour of Historic Downtown Raleigh

A 2.5 hour guided sightseeing tour via motor coach takes you to where Raleigh's roots began and where the City has evolved today. North Carolina's "Triangle", with some of the United States best historical markers, culture, architecture, food and stories await you as we travel the "City of Oaks". Created as one of America's earliest planned cities, Raleigh, was established in 1792 as the permanent seat of government for the state of North Carolina. The full list of sites is on the website.

Wed Sept 9, 1245-1700
Kayaking Trip at Lake Wheeler Park

Kayaking trip to Lake Wheeler Park includes transportation from the hotel to Lake Wheeler Park and kayak rental, safety equipment, basic instruction on proper boarding, paddling and egress from the boat by USPS member Robert Ball. Bathing attire should be worn under clothing while riding to the park. Water shoes should be carried with you. Participants will have approximately 2 hours of active paddling on the lake (swimming is not permitted at this venue). Departure back to the hotel at approximately 4:30pm. Lunch is on your own at the hotel prior to departure. This event has a limit of 20. A limited number of Stand Up Paddleboards will be available to try your hand if you dare!

Wed Sept 9 or Thurs Sept 10
Tour USPS Headquarters (2 hr tour)

This tour is free and limited to 10. Transportation to Headquarters is provided by the Hilton Raleigh North Hills shuttle van. The tour should take approximately 45 minutes. Meet some of the Headquarters staff, see where materials come from, see the impressive and historical Chapman Library where all of the heritage is held including various works of art depicting our beginnings.

Thurs Sept 10, 1100-1730
NC History & Science Museum

Take a trip to Downtown Raleigh and go back through time at the North Carolina Museum of History & Natural Sciences. It is the largest museum of its kind in the Southeast. Through their exhibits, programs, and field experiences, they provide visitors with opportunities to get up close and personal with science and nature. Continue on to The Exploration Center and Nature Research Center featuring an array of permanent and special exhibits, live programs and educational films. The museums are part of the Smithsonian Institution. Lunch is on your own at the museum or other location nearby.

Thurs Sept 10, 1800-2200
Murder Mystery Dinner Theater

America's largest interactive comedy Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre comes to the Hilton Raleigh North Hills! Solve a hilarious crime while you feast on a fantastic dinner. Just beware! The culprit is hiding in plain sight somewhere in the room, and you may find yourself as a Prime Suspect before you know it! Seating limited to the first 100 so sign up early!

Fri Sept 11, 1330-1730
Afternoon Tea Service, The Carolina Inn

Afternoon Tea Service at The Carolina Inn is a delightful and relaxed tradition. Served in their cozy dining area, guests enjoy an ambiance of gracious gentility. The Tea Hostess selects the finest teas, offering different assortments every season. Delectable house-made accompaniments include savory tea sandwiches, assorted sweets, and fresh baked scones served with fresh lemon curd, English Devonshire cream, jams and preserves. After Tea Service, you may have the opportunity to walk into Chapel Hill for some shopping if time allows before returning to the Hilton. Event 18-30 guests.

See the USPS website for hotel and all activity reservations
https://www.usps.org/php/reservations/meetinginfo.php?mtg_id=39



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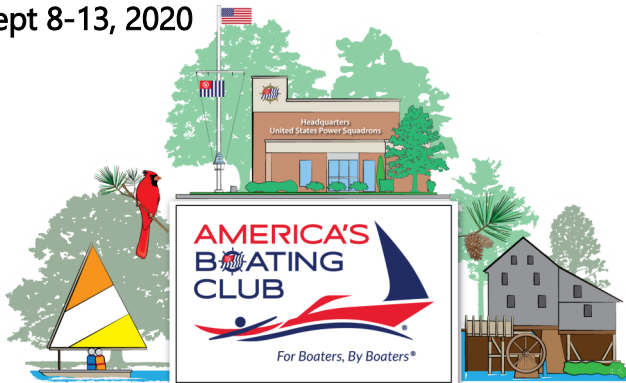
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Save the Date
Sept 8-13, 2020



2020 Fall Governing Board
Raleigh, North Carolina

June Anniversaries

Dave Anthony	2011	11 yrs
Rich Barta	2005	15 yrs
Dolores Ratajczak	2004	16 yrs
Jean Sanford	1997	23 yrs
Harris & Barb Seltzer	1992	29 yrs
Bridget Doerner	1990	31 yrs
Caryl Lemke	1990	31 yrs
Natalie Witty	1988	33 yrs
Rebecca Mulroy	1988	33 yrs
Joe Paldo	1987	34 yrs

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

Cdr Rich Davidson, SN

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35/19

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30/23



Running Lights

Skokie Valley Sail and Power Squadron

FROM:

P/D/C Karen D'Amico, AP
1240 Bison Lane
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TO:

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:
quick-release fitting
(note: maintain low speed)



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