



SKOKIE VALLEY SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON

DISTRICT 20

Membership Newsletter - Volume 17 Issue 3

Running Lights

March 2017

District 20 Spring Conference

Friday & Saturday March 17-18

Westin Chicago Northwest
400 Park Blvd
Itasca, IL 60143



Come to the Wearing O' the Green
masquerade party Friday night.
Details about the conference can
be found on pages 8-9 of this issue.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR COMMANDER

Many of us enjoyed our well attended (for a) February dinner/meeting at Continental Restaurant. The 2017 bridge was voted in, and we saw the video “Heroes on Deck”.


This month’s general dinner/meeting (no charge) is in our hospitality room at the D/20 Spring Conference Friday March 17th around 5:30. Friday is St. Patrick’s Day and the theme for the party is “Wearing O’ the Green Masquerade.” In that spirit, Rich Calfa has once again created several decorations to adorn our room. Thanks in advance to Waukegan Power Squadron for stepping up to host this conference. See page 8-9 for details.

Unfortunately, the ABC class that was scheduled in February was canceled due to lack of interest. Also canceled is the Seamanship class scheduled in March. Education Officer Rich Davidson will seek new ideas from other education officers at the upcoming D/20 Spring Conference. Again, if you have any ideas, please let Rich know.

Since the January general meeting held on a Sunday afternoon worked out so well, our 2017 Change of Watch is going be held on a Sunday afternoon. It will be at Atlantis Banquets in Arlington Heights. We’ve been there before when it was Mr. Peter’s Banquets. Invitations will not be sent out by mail, but only appear in this newsletter and on SailAngle. See page 4.



—Cdr. Gary Vinzant, JN

**Skokie Valley Sail & Power Squadron
2016-2017 Bridge**

COMMANDER	Cdr Gary Vinzant, JN	847-827-7179
EXECUTIVE OFFICER	Lt/C Tony Palazzo, AP	847-956-6173
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	Lt/C Ron Zingler, AP	847-634-3806
SECRETARY	P/C Don Sidman, JN	847-726-7309
TREASURER	Lt/C Sue Anthony, P	224-402-3107
EDUCATION OFFICER	Lt/C Richard Davidson, SN	847-295-8845
ASST. EDUCATION OFFICER	Lt/C James E. Soyka, SN	847-635-6239
IMMEDIATE PAST COMMANDER	I/P/C Don Sidman, JN	847-726-7309
ELECTED MEMBERS AT LARGE		
	Lt Dave Anthony, P	224-402-3107
	Lt Paul Sparkes, SN	847-202-4342
	Lt Jim Geske, AP	847-703-0885





Mark Your Calendar



March 2017

1	Wed	Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900	Yen Yen Restaurant, Buffalo Grove
1	Wed	Skokie Valley Breakfast Club, 0900-1000	Market Square, Wheeling
4	Sat	Dinner and a Play—Mamma Mia!	Marriott Lincolnshire
15	Wed	Skokie Valley Breakfast Club, 0900-1000	Market Square, Wheeling
15	Wed	Publication Deadline—Running Lights	Karen D’Amico (630-483-9741)
17	Fri	SVPS Member Meeting, 1730	Westin Chicago Northwest Itasca (below)
17-18	Fri-Sat	D20 Spring Conference	Westin Chicago Northwest Itasca (pg 8-9)
29	Wed	Skokie Valley Breakfast Club, 0900-1000	Market Square, Wheeling

April 2017

5	Wed	Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900	Yen Yen Restaurant, Buffalo Grove
12	Wed	Skokie Valley Breakfast Club, 0900-1000	Market Square, Wheeling
8	Sat	D20 Squadron Development Workshop	Cabela’s, Hoffman Estates (below)
15	Sat	Publication Deadline—Running Lights	Karen D’Amico (630-483-9741)
23	Sun	SVPS Change of Watch	Atlantis Banquets, Arlington Heights (pg 4)
26	Wed	Skokie Valley Breakfast Club, 0900-1000	Market Square, Wheeling

March Member Meeting

Our general member meeting will be held Friday 17 March at the District 20 Spring Conference (Room 627). The meeting will start at 5:30 PM, so our Commander can attend the district meeting that evening. Pizza will be served; bring an appetizer or dessert to share.

Westin Chicago Northwest
400 Park Blvd
Itasca, IL 60143

Dress in Green and stay for the Friday night masquerade party. See pages 8-9 of this issue for conference details.



D20 Squadron Development Workshop

Cabela’s Saturday 8 April 1000-1600

Morning Sessions

- Town Hall Meeting** with District 20 Bridge
- Keynote Speaker: Bob Sheahan from Cabela’s** Power Sports sales staff will speak on the evolution of pontoon boats—from basic fishing platform to today’s elaborate (head included) high-powered models. Pontoon boats are now the best selling recreational boat design.

Lunch—\$12 Turkey, Roast Beef or Ham sandwich or substitute a chopped salad. Includes chips and a drink. Contact George Prescott at LJNLawoffice@aol.com no later than 3 April to reserve lunch.

Afternoon Sessions

- Using the Boating Skills Virtual Trainer**—learn how to setup the virtual trainer. Plus how to use it to enhance the USPS educational program and attract membership. Practice time will also be available to use the virtual trainer.
- Operations Training in 3**—the new abbreviated operations training program by the USPS Leadership Development team. Designed to familiarize members with USPS program, and various bridge positions. Certificates will be awarded upon completion of this program.
- Vessel Safety Checks**—how to become a vessel examiner and the elements of a successful VSC program.

SVPS Change of Watch

Sunday 23 April 2017

1400 Cocktails (cash bar) 1500 Dinner

Join us for the installation of the
2017 Bridge and to thank the 2016 Bridge
Officers for their service

Atlantis Banquets
1273 N. Rand Rd.
Arlington Hts., IL 60004



Family Style Dinner: London Broil, Chicken
Tenders, Mostaccioli, Oven Brown Potatoes,
and Buttered Green Beans

Includes: Bread, Minestrone Soup, Caesar Salad,
Coffee, Tea, Soda and Chocolate Parfait Dessert

Reservations must be made by 17 April

Payment: \$35 cash or check at the door

Sign up on SailAngle or
contact Gary & Lorraine Vinzant
via phone 847-827-7179
or email GLVIN@sbcglobal.net

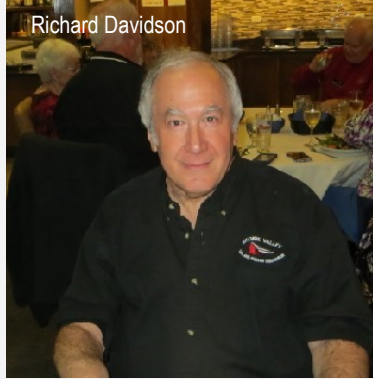


February SVPS Dinner Meeting Continental Restaurant

Lorraine & Cdr Gary Vinzant



Richard Davidson



Sue & Dave Anthony



Mary & Jim Soyka



Al & Pat Antoni



Joe Paldo



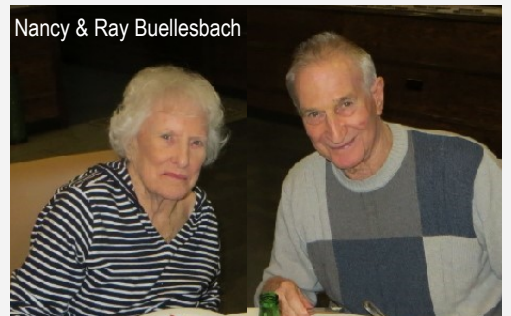
Sue Gottschalk



Steve & Kim Chmela



Nancy & Ray Buellesbach



Judy & Hugh Sommerfeld



Stu & Lori Zwang



Don & Gail Sidman





YOUR WEATHER REPORT

By Mike Hennessy, AP, Instructor-Weather course



Quotes to Get Through The Winter

"Laughter is the sun that drives winter from the human face."
— Victor Hugo

"Now is the winter of our discontent."
— William Shakespeare

"If winter comes, can spring be far behind?"
— Percy Bysshe Shelley

"Winter is not a season, it's an occupation."
— Sinclair Lewis

"You can't get too much winter in the winter."
— Robert Frost

"Winter is nature's way of saying, 'Up yours.'"
— Robert Byrne



A famous painting from 1677, *The Frozen Thames*, shows the enormous river in England frozen solid during the Little Ice Age. *Credit: Public domain*

"Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is the time for home."
— Edith Sitwell

"What good is the warmth of summer, without the cold of winter to give it sweetness."
— John Steinbeck

"Melancholy were the sounds on a winter's night."
— Virginia Woolf

"I had slumps that lasted into the winter."
— Bob Uecker

OUR GREAT LAKES, OUR GREATEST RESOURCE

Help the Great Lakes This Winter...

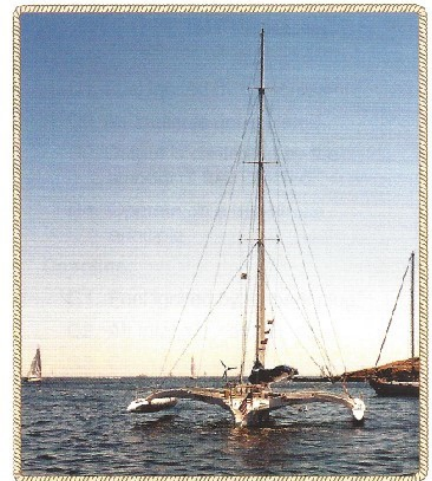
Decrease your use of road salt. The salt we use on the ground ends up in our lakes and rivers. Too much upsets the balance of local wildlife and even inhibits some fish from spawning. Remember, salt is not effective when the weather is below 15°F, so it is unnecessary at those temperatures.



Reduce your carbon footprint. Conserve energy at home by keeping the thermostat lower. Some ways to keep your house warmer is to open the blinds to let the sun's heat in, cover drafty doors and windows, and ensure your fireplace flue damper is closed.

Another way to help the environment is to reduce the time you let your car idle to warm up. You can prevent one pound of carbon dioxide emission for every 10 minutes your engine is off.

CAPTAIN AHAB'S QUIZ



Multi-hulled sail or powerboats are referred to as
" _____ " or " _____ ".

(see answer on back page)

Tom Clark, AP, Contributing Editor
Courtesy of Perchant Publishing



2017 Event & Cruising Schedule

Date	Event	Location	Host
January 11-15, 2017 Wednesday-Sunday	Chicago Boat Show	McCormick Place, Chicago	District 20 Jim Geske
January 22, 2017 Sunday	Dinner Meeting—1300	Gusto Restaurant Glenview IL	Ron & Joanne Zingler
February 17, 2017 Friday	Dinner Meeting—1830	Continental Restaurant, Buffalo Grove	Hugh & Judy Sommerfeld
February 19-26, 2017 Sunday-Sunday	USPS Annual Meeting	Rosen Centre, Orlando FL	USPS
March 4, 2017 Saturday	Dinner & Play Mamma Mia!	Marriott Theatre Lincolnshire, IL	Dave & Sue Anthony
March 17-18, 2017 Friday-Saturday	Spring Conference	Westin 400 Park Blvd, Itasca, IL	Waukegan Squadron
April 8, 2017 Saturday	District 20 Squadron Development Workshop	Cabela's, Hoffman Estates	District 20
April 23, 2017 Sunday	SVPS Change of Watch	Atlantis Banquets, Arlington Heights	Gary & Lorraine Vinzant
May 20, 2017 Saturday	Cocktail Hour—1400 Dinner Meeting—1600	"Gotta Love It" Southport Boathouse, Kenosha	Ron & Joanne Zingler
June 3, 2017 Saturday	Sundowner	Racine	Paul & Lisa Sparkes
July 7-16, 2017 Friday-Sunday	Michigan Cruise	Grand Haven, Ludington, Manitowoc, Milwaukee	Ron, Tony and Dave
July 15-16 Saturday-Sunday	Milwaukee Air & Water Show	McKinley Marina Milwaukee	Ron & Joanne Zingler
August 12 Saturday	Cruise & Rendezvous	Ivy Club, Peoria IL	District 20
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 13-16 Wednesday-Saturday	USPS Governing Board Meeting	Dallas, TX	USPS
September 25-29, 2017 (tentative)	House Boat River Cruise	LaCrosse, WI to St. Paul, MN	Ron & Pat Antoni
October 21, 2017	Medieval Times Dinner Meeting	Schaumburg, IL	Pat Antoni

You are cordially invited to attend a **St. Patrick's Day**
"Wearing O' the Green" Party
at

The Westin Chicago Northwest
400 Park Blvd
Itasca, IL 60143
Friday, 17 March, 2017
8:00pm-12:00pm



D/20 Spring Conference 17-19 March, 2017

Friday:

Come early to enjoy this ★★★★★ atrium hotel. Start the weekend with a soak in the hot tub, a swim in the indoor pool, a stroll or jog on the beautiful grounds or maybe warm up your golf game at the driving range. Then plan to attend the "Wearing O' the Green" Masquerade Party. We will be holding it in the spacious 1000 square foot Hospitality Suites. Join us in a fun interactive game of "What Am I". A prize will be awarded to whoever gets the most correct answers.

Saturday:

Start the day with a cup of coffee and continental breakfast in the Waukegan Hospitality Suite Friendship room. At 0915 Bill Strauss from the Waukegan Sail & Power Squadron will narrate the history and importance of the Superior Lake Soo Locks. He is involved with the steel ore freighters and has a special insight. After lunch is the conference and election of 2017 officers. Saturday evening is the cocktail party, dinner and installation of new district officers. Following dinner, the COW and raffle a few of the hospitality suites will be open for a nightcap.

Sunday: Before heading home you might like to check out the local area. The Lynfred Winery is nearby and offers tours and wine tasting. Woodfield Mall and many other shopping areas and restaurants are nearby. The hotel offers free shuttle service within a 5 mile radius.

We have a great weekend planned for all. Please come and enjoy the fun with us.

Mark Your Calendar and Sign Up Today!



District 20 Spring Conference
17th-18th March 2017
Hosted by Waukegan Sail & Power Squadron
The Westin Chicago Northwest
400 Park Blvd
Itasca, IL 60143

Room Rate: \$109.00 per night plus tax. Room block is limited.

Make reservations by 12 February at 630-773-4000. Be sure to mention United States Power Squadrons Spring Conference. Please do not reserve by Internet. We have the best rate and need the room credit for our contract.

Suites: \$189.00 per night plus tax for 1000 sq. ft. room. Perfect for a hospitality suite

Rank	Name	Grade	Squadron	Email	Telephone
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Lunch:

	Price	No.	Total
Herb Roasted Chicken Breast w/Roasted Yukon Potatoes, Green Beans & Carrots	\$34	___	\$ _____
Herbed Swai Fish Roulade w/ Grilled Vegetable Pearl Couscous	\$34	___	\$ _____
Pan Jus Grilled Sirloin Filet w/Roasted Yukon Potatoes, Green Beans & Carrots Lunch includes: Dessert, Coffee and Tea	\$34	___	\$ _____

Schedule of Events

Friday 17 March

1500-1900	Registration
1900-2000	Pending – T.B.D.
2000-2400	Hospitality Suites

Saturday 18 March

0730-1100	Friendship Room
0800-9000	Education Meeting
0900-1100	Registration
0915-1015	Soo Locks Presentation
1030-1130	Council Meeting
1200-1315	Luncheon
1315-1330	Verification of Delegates
1330-1600	Spring Conference
1800-1900	Cocktail Reception
1900-2100	Banquet/COW/Raffle
2100-2300	Hospitality Suites

Dinner:

Chicken Piccata w/Lemon Caper Cream Sauce	\$48	___	\$ _____
Wood Grilled Beef Filet w/Wild Mushroom Demi	\$48	___	\$ _____
Cracker Crusted White Fish w/Smoked Yellow Tomato Sauce Dinner includes: Caesar Salad, Vegetable Risotto Dessert, Coffee and Tea	\$48	___	\$ _____
Total			\$ _____

Check if First Time Attending a District Conference

Make Checks Payable to D/20 Spring Conference
 Registration and check should be **sent by 15 February** to:
 Lt/C Ellen Ludtke
 11419 Zarnstorff Rd
 Richmond, IL 60071 emludtke@gmail.com / 815 245 0888

Dress Code:

Friday: "Wearing O the Green"
 Saturday (day): Uniform F - White long sleeve, black pants and tie
 Saturday (night): Uniform A or appropriate attire.



11 March 2017
1000-1200

Larsen Marine, Waukegan

Lt/C Richard Davidson, SN will present the USPS Seminar Using VHF and VHF/DSC Marine Radio

March Anniversaries

Joe & Sue Lokaj	2006	11 yrs
Kathy Parker	1997	20 yrs
Joel Meyer	1972	46 yrs
Richard Elesh	1969	49 yrs
Louis Cosentine	1967	51 yrs

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



Member Benefits

At the USPS Annual Meeting, two new member benefits were announced...



Save up to 55% off all major hotels. Go to the site www.hotelstorm.com/usps and use the access code: MEMBERPERKS. Then just search by your destination and travel dates to find the best hotel deals.

TRAVELERS

Travelers offers discounts on auto, home, boat, and renters insurance. To get a free quote call 1-800-842-5936 or visit www.travelers.com/usps



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Broker Associate

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19/22

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1/19

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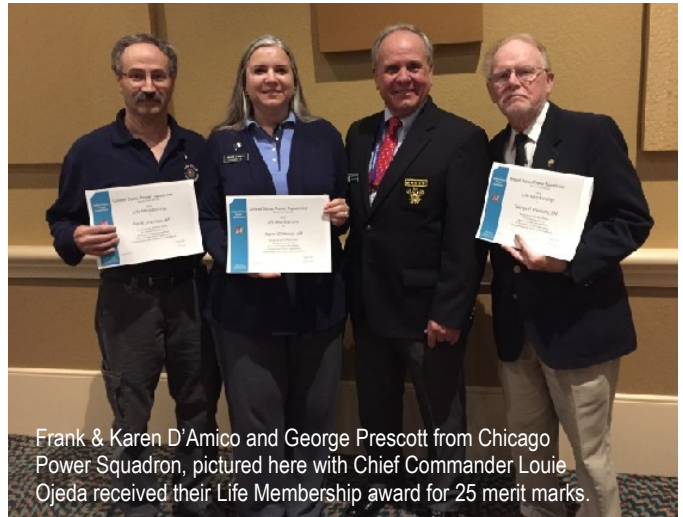
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Members of Skokie Valley and D20 attended the USPS annual meeting in Orlando. D20 had a total of 17 members at the conference.

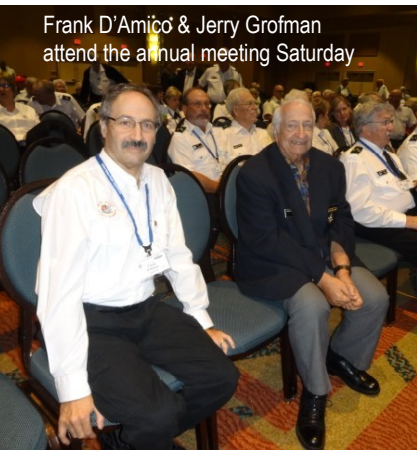
USPS Annual Meeting

Frank D'Amico at the D20 hospitality suite Friday night with District Commander Harvey Young and Bob Canfield.



Frank & Karen D'Amico and George Prescott from Chicago Power Squadron, pictured here with Chief Commander Louie Ojeda received their Life Membership award for 25 merit marks.

Frank D'Amico & Jerry Grofman attend the annual meeting Saturday

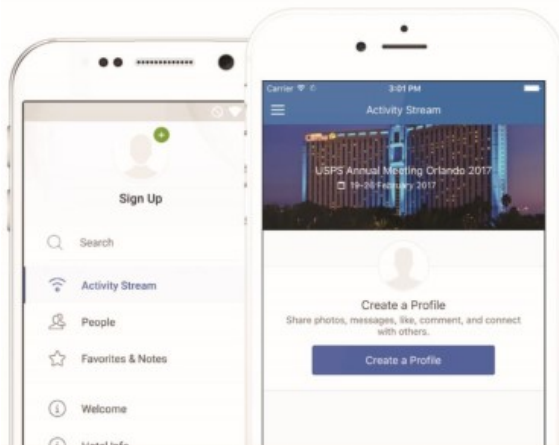


Al & Pat Antoni enjoy the D20 hospitality suite with other D20 members



USPS Annual Meeting 2017

19-26 February 2017



USPS has a new mobile app to enhance our experience at the Annual Meeting. We downloaded the app on our smart phone and tablets from the app store. It was available for laptops too, but more convenient to carry our other devices during the meeting.

With the app we could quickly view the meeting agenda, seminar descriptions, times, and room locations. We could mark our favorite sessions to personalize our agenda. It even featured interactive maps, so we could quickly see the meeting room by just touching the location on our schedule.

The app had a built in private social network where members could post messages. We could also share photos on the activity stream, or send direct messages to other members.

Overall it was a great tool that made it really easy to get around and find our way at the Annual Meeting.

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

www.skokievalleypowersquadron.org

District 20: www.uspsd20Boating.org

USPS: www.usps.org

Safety: www.safeboatingcampaign.com



Captain Ahab answer:
Catamarans or Trimarans



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