



# SKOKIE VALLEY SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON

DISTRICT 20

Membership Newsletter - Volume 18 Issue 3

## Running Lights

# March 2018



**Celebrate  
St. Patrick's Day at the  
District 20 Spring Conference**

**March 16-18, 2018**

**Holiday Inn, Elgin, IL  
(I-90 & Route 31)**



*Happy  
St. Patrick's  
Day*



United States Power Squadrons is America's Boating Club®



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR COMMANDER

As is the tradition at our February general/dinner meeting, we voted for the slate of officers which were announced the month before, and printed in this newsletter. The vote was unanimous in favor of the slate as published. We had a very small turnout due to several members attending the Panama Cruise and the USPS National Meeting (Orlando).

Our Executive Officer P/C Joe Lokaj will be our next commander. Plans are already underway for the 2018 Change of Watch. It is going to be held on a Sunday afternoon, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at Wildfire in Lincolnshire. I hope everyone will consider attending this year – in a way it's the kickoff event to the start of the boating season for us.

But before that...

We will repeat another sort-of tradition. This month's dinner/general meeting is in our hospitality room at the D/20 Spring Conference, on Friday March 16<sup>th</sup> at around 5:30 p.m. We will have pizza, etc. and there is no charge to our members. The theme for Friday night is St. Patrick's Day. Costumes are optional, but always fun.

At this writing, the keynote speaker for Saturday morning at the conference has not been announced, but they are always interesting and informative – worth attending. That will be followed by workshop seminars covering education, using DB2000, using Sail Angle and updates on member programs.

The actual conference follows lunch and according to D/C Mike Ludtke "is about district business and an opportunity for you to learn about changes and innovative programs coming out of National. Many of the district officers will be freshly back from the USPS National Meeting in Orlando and will have plenty to share." Saturday evening is the District Change of Watch dinner where George Prescott will take the helm as district commander.

But wait, there's more. Sunday morning workshops will continue with seminars such as Operations Training (OT in 3), and Instructor Recertification. The Sunday workshops are intended to bring the "Squadron Development Workshop" to the conference so that people will not have to travel twice. In the last few years it was at Cabela's in Hoffman Estates.

See page 4 for the Conference schedule and registration form.

—Cdr. Gary Vinzant, JN



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



### COMMANDER

Cdr Gary Vinzant, JN 847-827-7179

### EXECUTIVE OFFICER

P/C Joe Lokaj, JN 847-914-9447

### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

P/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 Cindy Geske 847-703-0884

Lt Jim Geske, AP 847-703-0885





# Mark Your Calendar



## March 2018

7	Wed	Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900	Yen Yen Restaurant, Buffalo Grove
14	Wed	Skokie Valley Breakfast Club, 0900-1000	Market Square, Wheeling
15	Thurs	Publication Deadline—Running Lights	Karen D'Amico (630-483-9741)
16	Fri	March Member Meeting	Holiday Inn Elgin (below)
16-18	Fri/Sun	D20 Spring Conference & Change of Watch	Holiday Inn Elgin (page 4)
18	Sun	D20 Operations Workshop	Holiday Inn Elgin (below)
28	Wed	Skokie Valley Breakfast Club, 0900-1000	Market Square, Wheeling

## April 2018

4	Wed	Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900	Yen Yen Restaurant, Buffalo Grove
11	Wed	Skokie Valley Breakfast Club, 0900-1000	Market Square, Wheeling
15	Sun	Publication Deadline—Running Lights	Karen D'Amico (630-483-9741)
22	Sun	SVPS Change of Watch	Wildfire, Lincolnshire (page 5)
25	Wed	Skokie Valley Breakfast Club, 0900-1000	Market Square, Wheeling



## Celebrate St. Patrick's Day at the District 20 Spring Conference

**March 16-18, 2018**

**Holiday Inn, Elgin, IL  
(I-90 & Route 31)**

**Skokie Valley will hold our  
March member meeting  
Friday night 1730 in our  
Hospitality Suite**

**We will have pizzas and  
beverages. Please bring a  
dish to share.**

## D20 Operations Workshop Sunday March 18th

0830-1130 Operations Training  
0930-1130 Instructor Recertification

Sunday after the conference, D20 will offer "OT in 3" hours. This is a new seminar developed by USPS to better understand the structure and activities of our evolving organization. It is great for new and even long time members.

Also on Sunday, D20 will conduct Instructor Recertification. It is important for anyone teaching public boating classes to keep your instructor certification current. Attendees learn skills for communicating with your audience, whether teaching in a classroom or making a presentation at the office.

The District will have to pay for the rooms on Sunday, so please register in advance. They need to know if there is sufficient interest in attending one of these seminars.





**District 20 Spring Conference**  
**16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> March 2018**  
**Holiday Inn Chicago Northwest-Elgin**  
**495 Airport Rd**  
**Elgin, IL 60123**

**Room Rates:** King and Double Queen Standard \$99.00 per night. Room block is limited. Make reservations **by 23 February**. Call 847 488-9000 and ask for the D20 USPS Room Block or book online [D/20 Fall Conference](#) Suites are available, but, are not blocked out and are on a first come/first serve basis, reserve ASAP. Jr King or Queen Suite \$119 per night, King Executive or Deluxe Queen \$139 per night

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

Lunch:

	Price	No.	Total
<b>Club Sub Sandwich</b> Smoked Turkey, Ham, Bacon Aged Cheddar & Swiss Cheese. Lettuce & Tomato on Hoagie Bread	\$20	___	\$ _____
<b>Hot Roast Beef Philly Sandwich</b> Roast Beef, Grilled Onions & Peppers, Melted Provolone Cheese on Artisan Bread Au Jus	\$20	___	\$ _____
<b>Chicken &amp; Pesto Sandwich</b> Grilled Chicken & Basil Pesto on Ciabatta Bread Grilled with Olive Oil. Small Caprese Salad Lunch includes: Potato Chips, Coffee, Iced Tea	\$20	___	\$ _____

Schedule of Events

<b>Friday 16 March</b>	
1500-1800	Registration
1900-2200	Hospitality Suites
<b>Saturday 17 March</b>	
0700-1045	Friendship Room
0800-0900	Education Meeting
0900-1100	Registration
0900-1000	Keynote Speaker
1015-1115	DB2000/Sail Angle
1045-1115	Membership
1200-1315	Luncheon/Raffle
1315-1330	Verification of Delegates
1330-1600	Spring Conference
1800-1900	Cocktail Reception
1900-2100	Banquet/COW

Dinner:

<b>Roasted Prime Rib of Beef</b>	\$42	___	\$ _____
<b>Chicken Marsala w/Mushroom Wine Sauce</b>	\$39	___	\$ _____
<b>Pasta Primavera</b> Penne Pasta w/Seasonal Vegetables w/Basil Marinara Dinner includes: Garden Salad, Artisan Rolls Soft Drinks, Iced Tea, Dessert and Coffee	\$39	___	\$ _____
<b>Total</b>			\$ _____

<b>Sunday 18 March</b>	
0830-1130	Operations Training
0930-1130	Instructor Recertification

- Check if Attending Operations Training
- Check if Attending Instructor Qualification
- Check if First Time Attending a District Conference

**Dress Code:**  
 Friday: Casual (Irish/Green)  
 Saturday (day): Uniform G - White short sleeve shirt, black pants (no tie)  
 Saturday (night): Uniform A or appropriate attire.

Make Checks Payable to District 20:  
 Registration and check should be **sent by 7 March** to:  
 Lt/C Ellen Ludtke  
 11419 Zarnstorff Rd  
 Richmond, IL 60071 [emludtke@gmail.com](mailto:emludtke@gmail.com) / 815 245 0888

# *Change of Watch*

## *Sunday 22 April 2018*

*Wildfire Lincolnshire*  
*325 Parkway Drive*

*1230 Cocktails (cash bar)*

*1300 Family Style Dinner — \$45*

*1430 Change of Watch Ceremony*

Join us for the installation of the  
Skokie Valley 2018 Bridge and to thank the  
2017 Bridge Officers for their service

Family Style Dinner: prime rib, split-roasted herb chicken,  
cedar-planked salmon, redskin mashed potatoes, and  
balsamic-roasted vegetables

Includes: salad/appetizer, coffee, tea, soda & dessert

**Please Make Reservations by 15 April**

Sign up on SailAngle, or contact Joe & Sue Lokaj  
via phone 847-914-9447 or Sue@lokaj.net



## **YOUR WEATHER REPORT**

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



### **Floods**

In the last year there has been devastating damage around the world due to storms of all kinds, with the end result being floods. Regardless of the type of storm, the greatest amount of damage is usually due to water damage. When one says the probability of a flood occurring every 100 years, what they are really saying is a 1% chance of it happening in any given year.

Flash floods are particularly dangerous because they can happen so quickly. Generally they are caused by heavy rainfall resulting from slow moving thunderstorms or rains from hurricanes and tropical storms. Flash floods move at high speeds giving them the power to move boulders, tear out trees, and destroy buildings and bridges. Rapidly rising waters can reach 20 or more feet and carry dangerous debris.

The National Weather Service advises the public to:

- ☑ Go to higher ground if flooding occurs;
- ☑ Get out of areas subject to flooding (dips, low spots, canyons, etc.);
- ☑ Never attempt to cross flowing streams and never allow water to get above knee level;
- ☑ Never camp or park along streams or washes when flood conditions threaten;
- ☑ Never drive through flooded water, cars can float in two feet of water;
- ☑ Be especially cautious at night when recognizing danger is more difficult.



### **OUR GREAT LAKES, OUR GREATEST RESOURCE**

Eight ways to use less plastic...

1. Skip the bottled water and use a reusable water bottle.
2. Avoid using a straw. Straws are one of the top 10 marine debris items found on beaches.
3. Avoid using microbeads found in face washes and tooth pastes. Check labels for "poly".
4. Buy products made from recycled materials with little or no packaging.
5. Choose to carry reusable bags for shopping.
6. Repair, upgrade or turn in electronics to recycle.
7. Wear clothing made of non-synthetic fibers. Polyester clothing is made of plastic.
8. Compost and use fewer garbage bags.



### **CAPTAIN AHAB'S QUIZ**



### **PRE-TRAILERING CHECKLIST**

1. Remove or stow loose items that might blow out of the boat.
2. Secure anchors, batteries, and coolers so they won't slide around.
3. Tie canvas tops or covers tightly to keep them from ripping in the wind.
4. Make sure that all tie-downs are securely fastened.
5. Check trailer tail lights, stop lights, turn signals, and tire pressure.
6. Make sure the hitch is seated and locked, and that the safety chains are run under the trailer tongue.

Which item in the checklist shown above is **slightly** incorrect?

(see answer on back page)

Tom Clark, AP, Contributing Editor  
Courtesy of Perchant Publishing





# SVPS 2018 Event & Cruising Schedule



When	Event	Location	Host
March 16-18, 2018 Friday-Sunday	Spring Conference	Holiday Inn, Elgin	District 20
March 18, 2018 Sunday	D20 Operations Workshop (OT in 3 hours)	Holiday Inn, Elgin	District 20
April 22, 2018 Sunday	SVPS Change of Watch	Wildfire, Lincolnshire	Joe & Sue Lokaj
May 5, 2018 Saturday 0800	Rowing Regatta	Crystal Lake	Gary Vinzant
May 20, 2018 Sunday	Luncheon Meeting	Botanical Gardens	Ron & Joanne Zingler
June 10, 2018 Sunday	Luncheon	Arlington Park Race Track Arlington Heights, IL	Ron & Joanne Zingler
June 29 to July 1, 2018	Summerfest Cruise	McKinley, Marina Milwaukee, WI	Ron & Joanne Zingler
July 13 to August 3, 2018	Summer Cruise	Port Washington Fish Day, Sturgeon Bay, Frankfort, Charlevoix, Bay Harbor, Harbor Springs, Mackinaw City, Ludington, Pentwater	Ron & Joanne Zingler
July 28, 2018 Saturday	D20 Cruise & Rendezvous		District 20
August 17-20, 2018	Chicago Air & Water Show	North Avenue Beach Chicago	Ron & Joanne Zingler
August 19, 2018 Sunday	Chicago Architectural Tour	Wendella, Chicago	Ron & Joanne Zingler
September 9, 2018 Sunday 1400	Dinner Meeting	Reflections Lake Villa	Ron & Joanne Zingler
October 2018	Dinner Meeting	Marriott Lincolnshire Play & Dinner Meeting	Dave & Sue Anthony
November 2018	Anniversary Dinner	TBD	Ron & Joanne Zingler
December 2018	Commanders Holiday Party	TBD	Commander



## Member Benefits

Office Depot/Office Max remains the most used benefit in USPS. But would you be surprised to learn the VPI Pet Insurance ranks up there as one of the top most used benefits by USPS members?

USPS members receive a 5% group discount on a VPI pet insurance policy, plus additional discounts for multiple pets. Protect them from accidents, illness and more! Call 877-PETS-VPI and mention your USPS membership.



## SVPS February Dinner Meeting



Judy Sommerfeld, Ray & Nancy Buellesbach, Carol Fey



Hugh Sommerfeld and Joe Paldo



Jim Soyka, Rich Barta, and Judy Sommerfeld



Sue Lokaj, Lorraine Vinzant, Joe Lokaj

### ROSTER ERRATA

Everyone should have received your copy of the 2017-2018 Roster a few months ago. It would help if you would look over your information and send me an email or letter with any changes or corrections.



The following members found their information was wrong. Please change your roster so that it is correct.

**William A. Goldstein, S**—his business phone is 312-873-1245 and cell phone is 312-375-9666. Change the name of his boat to Breeze. He also added his email address: [bill@chelseytaft.com](mailto:bill@chelseytaft.com)

**Barbara L. Seltzer, S**—her home phone is 630-766-0836. Change her spouse name to Harris.

**Harris A. Seltzer, P**—his home phone is 630-766-0836 and cell phone is 630-992-0836. He added his boat info: Type -Power, Name—Life's too Short, Port—Southport. He also added his email address: [HASeltzer@aol.com](mailto:HASeltzer@aol.com)

**Don David Sweeney**—move his business phone to cell phone and change his email address to: [donsweeney@gmail.com](mailto:donsweeney@gmail.com)

It would really help the squadron, district and national if you would publish your email address. This is the best way to stay connected with the organization.

Stf/C Pat Antoni, SN  
1502 N. Applewood LN, Spring Grove IL 60081  
email: [pantoni@aol.com](mailto:pantoni@aol.com)



## News from National...



In February, 22 members from District 20 attended the USPS annual meeting in Orlando Florida, including Pat Antoni, Cindy Geske, Frank and Karen D'Amico from Skokie Valley. The 85 degree weather was a nice break from our snowy February. Frank and I went early to join one of the tours on Wednesday to the Kennedy Space Center and see the Atlantis Shuttle exhibit.

On Thursday, there were open meetings and presentations by each of the National Departments and Friday there were 20 different seminars hosted throughout the day by several of the National Committees. Thursday evening, Caren Canfield from Rockford Squadron received her 25 year life membership. Saturday during the Governing Board Meeting, Bill Schwartz who is also from Rockford received his 50 Year Emeritus Award (for 50 merit marks), which means he is now permanently a voting member of the Governing Board.

There was a lot of information about the new America's Boating Club branding effort. The national marketing campaign began in January. You may have already started to see print and digital ads in publications such as Boat US, Boating, Great Lakes Scuttlebutt, Marina Life, Sail, or The Fisherman (just to name a few). Initially, the goal of these ads is to build awareness that USPS is America's Boating Club. Later this year, the digital and social ads will transition to a "call to action", such as joining or taking a course. The National Marketing Committee recently published a detailed guidebook on using the new branding. Frank and I will provide information about the campaign and how to leverage the new trademarks to recruit members at the D20 Spring Conference on Saturday morning (3/17).

In the spirit of updating our image with the boating public, several of the advanced grade member courses are being renamed. Seamanship will be called Boat Handling, Piloting will be Marine Navigation, AP will be Advanced Marine Navigation, JN will be called Offshore Navigation, and N will be called Celestial Navigation. The hope is the new names will help the boating public better understand and relate to the content of our courses. However, members will still keep the existing grade designations (S, P, AP, JN, N and SN).

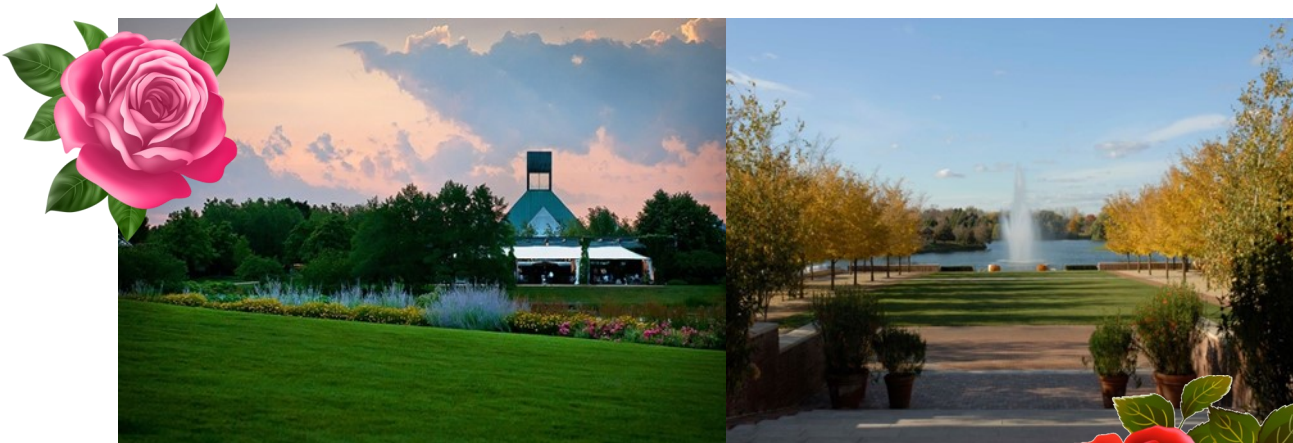
Saturday, the Governing Board passed a bylaws change allowing the District Commander and National XO to authorize a waiver for a struggling squadron who wants to alter the operational structure and prevent them from dissolving. This provides the flexibility to meet requirements of the National Bylaws and the opportunity for a squadron to rebuild.

Lastly, the new USPS Endowment Fund Inc. was established in September. This is a 501(c)(3) organization setup for planned giving. This type of organization is more favorable for estate planning than the existing endowment fund trust. All gifts are invested and only the proceeds are used to fund activities for USPS. Thanks to a recent 7-figure donation, the balance in this fund is already \$1.9 million.



# SVPS May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Lunch Meeting

If you have never been to the Chicago Botanic Garden, you have to come out to see the beauty at this event. The Gardens are situated on nine islands providing panoramic views surrounded by beautiful plantings. This is a treasure in our own backyard that can only be appreciated by viewing it.



**Where:** Chicago Botanic Garden  
1000 Lake Cook Road  
Glencoe, IL 60022 847.835.5440



**Time:** 11:30 Arrival  
12:00 Narrated Tram Ride around the gardens 35 minutes  
01:30 Lunch served in the Lakeside Room at Visitor Center

**Parking:** Mention **Skokie Valley Power Squadron Event** to the guard for free parking

**Cost:** \$50 Includes parking, tram ride, walks through the garden for the day, and lunch buffet

**Buffet:** Salad, grilled chicken, vegetable, desert, coffee, tea and water  
Alcohol refreshments can be purchased in the cafeteria.



***Last Day for Registration is May 3rd***



Please register on SailAngle or contact: Ron Zingler  
H: 847.634.3806 C: 847.946.2516C zingleron@comcast.net



## March Anniversaries

Barbara O'Connell	1980	20 yrs
Dixie Widner	1983	36 yrs
Ron Sieling	1968	51 yrs
T.G. Delahunty	1967	52 yrs

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



3409 Del Prado Blvd, Suite 103  
Cape Coral, FL 33904  
Office: 239.542.5777  
Fax: 239.542.5778  
Cell: 239.233.7274  
Dick.Hughes@C21.com  
www.C21SellingParadise.com

Each office is independently owned and operated.

**Dick Hughes**  
Broker Associate

AMERICAN BROKERS TEAM

C.A.M. MLS



6/23

**Richard J. Calfa**

**CAIFA FOR INSURANCE**

1102 N. Main Street  
Algonquin, IL 60102

(847) 658-5700  
Fax: (847) 658-5705  
E-Mail: richard@calfaforins.com



11/19



**BONNI BREEN**  
Broker

Cell: 847-687-0287  
Office: 847-272-9880  
eFax: 781-609-9122  
Bonni.Breen@cbexchange.com




**RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE**

1925 Cherry Lane  
Northbrook, IL 60062  
BonniBreen.CBintouch.com

Operated by a subsidiary of NRT LLC

13/13



**AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB**  
*For Boaters, By Boaters™*

## Emergencies On Board

Preparation for Handling Common Problems

### Gain the confidence to handle boating emergencies

**Emergencies on Board Webinar**

**When: March 20, 2018, 7 PM CT**

**Cost: \$25**

Preparing to handle common problems before you leave the dock and knowing how to deal with them when they arise adds to your boating enjoyment.

This 2-hour webinar prepares you to:

- Prevent and handle common vessel-related emergencies
- Prevent and handle common medical emergencies
- Communicate effectively in emergency situations

Intended for power boaters and sailors, the webinar includes specific how to guidance delivered live by boating experts.

The webinar costs just \$25 and includes a comprehensive downloadable student guide, plus access to the entire recorded webinar.

Don't miss out—sign up today!

<https://americasboatingclub.org/education-matters/online-boating-education/webinars/>



# 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:** [BeyondBoating.org](http://BeyondBoating.org)

[AmericasBoatingClub.org](http://AmericasBoatingClub.org)



Captain Ahab answer:

#6. Chains should be **crossed** under the tongue to support the trailer if it comes loose.



Editor and Publisher

P/D/C Karen D'Amico, AP  
[RunningLightsEditor@gmail.com](mailto:RunningLightsEditor@gmail.com)

Contributing Editors

Tom Clark, AP  
Bridget Doerner, N  
Mike Hennessy, AP  
P/C Ron Zingler, AP  
Joanne Zingler, AP  
Stuart Zwang, SN

Photographers

P/C Richard Calfa, N  
P/C George Doerner, SN  
P/C Ron Zingler, AP

Production Staff

P/C Frank D'Amico, AP