





SKOKIE VALLEY SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON

DISTRICT 20

Membership Newsletter - Volume 24 Issue 3

Running Lights

March 2024



United States Power Squadrons is America's Boating Club®



A MESSAGE FROM OUR COMMANDER

March is here and it's time to say goodbye to winter, snow, and February. Last month did bring some great activities and new venues to try. The Lake Geneva Winterfest was very different this year. It was interesting to see the patches of snow (trucked in) where the sculptures were being created amongst the grassy parkways. The warmer weather allowed us to be outside longer and enjoy the day. We had lunch at Pop-eyes by the Lake and shopping followed. Be sure to check out the pictures in this edition.

Our February General Meeting took place at a new restaurant. The food at Mambo Italiano in Mundelein was excellent and everyone had a good time. We did cast our vote for the new 2024 – 2025 Slate of Officers. I want to thank everyone again for accepting the positions they were nominated for. Whether for a Bridge or a Committee position, your support is what makes Skokie Valley a great and strong squadron.

Karen and I attended the National Annual Meeting in Orlando, FL. We enjoyed a Polynesian Fire Luau, a Pirate Adventure Dinner Show, and other group activities while in Orlando. The weather was a bit cooler than expected but still warmer than Chicago. We sat in various meetings covering new marketing efforts, communication, the transition the new online database (iMAS) and other programs that National is conducting. We received information on how the overall membership looks and what other squadrons and districts are doing to attract new members and keep current members involved.

The new C/C Ralph A. Bernard, AP and his bridge were sworn in along with other new officers. Among them was newly appointed Rear Commander Pat Antoni, SN (Chair Navigation Committee). Congratulations R/C Pat Antoni, SN. Also congratulations Rich Davidson, SN-ACN who received his life membership.

Now for March. This month we have our D20 Spring Conference, 8-9 March at the Holiday Inn in Elgin. The theme is Lighthouses. Come join us Friday night for activities and hospitality rooms. Saturday we have a keynote speaker, lunch, and the Conference. Saturday night's dinner will be the D20 Change of Watch and swearing in of the new D20 Bridge. The registration form is in this edition of the "Running Lights" with the schedule of events. There may still be rooms available. D20 needs our support.

SEO Chuck Burger is currently teaching Boat Handling and is offering America's Boating Class from 30 April to 16 May (Tuesdays & Thursdays) . If you have any questions or wish additional information, feel free to contact Chuck. If there is a class or seminar that may be of interest to you, let him know. I am sure that we can try to arrange something.



America's Boating Club North Shore 2023-2024 Bridge

- COMMANDER**
Cdr Frank D'Amico, AP 224-238-7372
- EXECUTIVE OFFICER**
P/C Tony Palazzo, AP 630-347-6586
- ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**
P/C Ron Zingler, AP-IN 847-634-3806
- SECRETARY**
P/D/C Karen D'Amico, AP 224-238-7372
- TREASURER**
Lt/C Sue Anthony, P 224-402-3107
- EDUCATION OFFICER**
P/D/C Chuck Burger, SN 847-322-0828
- ASSISTANT EDUCATION OFFICER**
1st Lt Joe Paldo, P 847-255-9158
- IMMEDIATE PAST COMMANDER**
P/C Tony Palazzo, AP 630-347-6586
- ELECTED MEMBERS AT LARGE**
Lt Ray Adam 630-347-3495
Lt Dave Anthony, P 224-402-3107
Lt Gail Sidman, AP 847-726-7309

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—Cdr. Frank D'Amico, AP





Mark Your Calendar



March 2024

6	Wed	Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900	Zoom meeting (below)
8	Fri	March Member Meeting, Friday night	Elgin, IL (SVPS hospitality suite)
8-9	Fri-Sat	District 20 Spring Conference/Change of Watch	Elgin, IL (page 7)
15	Mon	Publication Deadline—Running Lights	Karen D’Amico (224-238-7372)

April 2024

3	Wed	Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900	Zoom meeting (below)
14	Sun	April Member Meeting/Change of Watch	Dover Straits, Mundelein (page 8)
15	Mon	Publication Deadline—Running Lights	Karen D’Amico (224-238-7372)

Frank and I enjoyed the Annual Meeting in February. We arrived a few days early, so we could join a few planned activities. Our traditional first stop whenever we arrive in Orlando is the Boathouse at Disney Springs. Lunch on Monday included our favorites, like the oyster bar and lobster roll. Monday night we attended the Polynesian Fire Luau, which was an easy trolley ride down the street from our hotel on International Drive. Everyone kept asking if I had my quarter for the trolley ride, but (um) I don’t qualify for that yet.

On Tuesday, Frank and I visited the International Arts Festival at EPCOT. That was fun to see all the artists and artwork as we toured the countries. We did send a canvas home that caught our eye. Tuesday evening we again hopped the trolley with a group of about 20 members to a Pirates Adventure Dinner Show. That was a huge production and very entertaining.

Wednesday we sat by the pool, enjoying a few 39 Specials (my favorite beverage at Rosen Plaza). In the afternoon, we attended a seminar about new features in the Information Center and picked up a few new items at the Ship’s Store.

Thursday and Friday we attended various meetings to hear news from the Secretary and XO Department committees. Rich Davidson received his Life Member Award on Thursday night. That evening we celebrated D/C Ludtke’s birthday at our favorite Greek restaurant, Taverna Opa!



AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB
UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRANS

Annual Meeting Orlando, Florida



Meeting photos by National
Photographer: Steve Erickson, JN

Rich Davidson receives his
life membership award from
Chief Commander Fraiser

Continued on page 9...

Team North Shore

Executive Committee Meeting: Jan 31st at 7:00 pm Central

Zoom Meeting ID: 875 8578 5751, Passcode: 949310

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87585785751?pwd=6CPnI7nwsK6PHoBnfQd8zhJOQAso4g.1>

Dial by your location: +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

One tap mobile: +13126266799,,87585785751#,,,,*949310# US (Chicago)

FEBRUARY DINNER MEETING MAMBO ITALIANO



Frank D'Amico, Chuck Burger, Rich Davidson



Sue Palazzo, Dave Anthony, Joanne Zingler



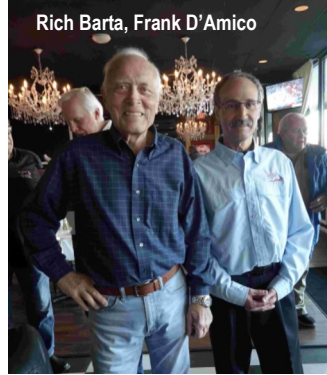
Joe & Lori Ratajczak, Karen D'Amico



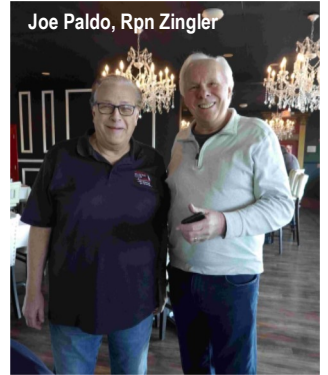
Sue & Tony Palazzo, Joanne & Ron Zingler



Deb & Ray Adam



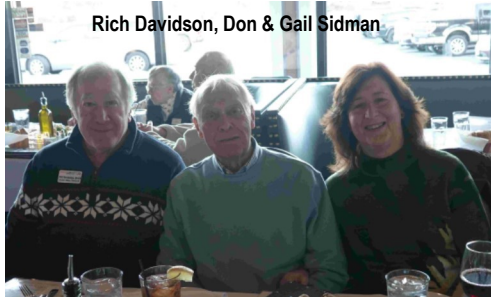
Rich Barta, Frank D'Amico



Joe Paldo, Ron Zingler



Frank & Karen D'Amico



Rich Davidson, Don & Gail Sidman



Stuart & Lorri Zwang



Joanne & Ron Zingler



Deb & Ray Adam



Tony & Sue Palazzo



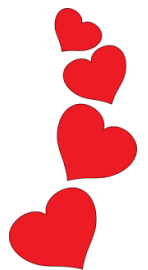
Rich Barta, Chuck Burger



Joe Paldo



Sue & Dave Anthony





Sue Anthony, Sue Palazzo, Deb Adam, Joanne Zingler, Karen D'Amico



Frank D'Amico, Tony Palazzo, Ron Zingler, Ray Adam



Frank D'Amico, Tony Palazzo, Sue & Dave Anthony, Ron & Joanne Zingler, Deb & Ray Adam, Sue Palazzo



Karen & Frank D'Amico



Ray & Deb Adam



Joanne & Ron Zingler



Sue & Tony Palazzo



Sue & Dave Anthony

In early February, we returned to the annual Winterfest event in Lake Geneva. This year was very warm, especially compared to the last couple years. The only snow on the ground were the piles placed strategically for the snow sculpting teams who came from many states to attend the national competition. After meeting at Starbucks, we walked down to see the all competitors and voted for our favorite. Then we took an early lunch on the lakefront at Popeye's. Afterwards, we walked around the downtown area, exploring the stores and the unique ice sculptures in front of each establishment (before they melted!). It was a really nice day.



March Anniversaries

Kathy Parker	1997	27 yrs
Richard Elesh	1969	56 yrs

Congratulations on reaching another milestone with the squadron. We appreciate your support!
Cdr Frank D'Amico, AP

CAPTAIN AHAB'S QUIZ



PHOTO: COURTESY OF BOSTON WHALER BOATS

The volt meter for your port battery is indicating low voltage. The problem could be caused by: a) corroded battery terminals, B) a bad cell, C) failure to charge both batteries equally, or D) all of the above.

(see answer on back page)

Tom Clark, AP, Contributing Editor
 Courtesy of Perchant Publishing



SVPS 2024 Event & Cruising Schedule



When	Event	Location	Host
Friday-Saturday March 8-9	District 20 Spring Conference & Change of Watch	Holiday Inn, Elgin	District 20
Sunday April 14th	SVPS Change of Watch	Dover Straits, Mundelein	Frank D'Amico
Sunday May 19th	Dinner Meeting	Nolan's Restaurant Illinois Beach Hotel, Zion	Ron Zingler
Saturday June 8th	Lake Michigan Fishing Derby & North Point Sundowner	North Point Marina	Dave & Sue Anthony
June 20-22, 27-29 & July 4-6	Summerfest Milwaukee Cruise	Milwaukee, WI	Ron Zingler
TBD	Lake Michigan Summer Cruise	TBD	
July 27-28	Milwaukee Air and Water	McKinley Harbor	
TBD	D20 Cruise & Rendezvous	TBA	District 20
Saturday August 17th	Sundowner	Racine, WI	Larry & Christine March
September 21 or 22	Dinner Meeting	Dockers on Pistakee Lake	Chuck Burger/Ron Zingler
September 22-30	America's Boating Club Fall Governing Board Meeting	Pittsburgh, PA	National Meeting
Sunday October 20th	Lake Geneva Boat Cruise Tour— Sunday Brunch	Lake Geneva, WI	Frank D'Amico
TBD	District 20 Fall Conference	TBD	District 20
Sunday November 10th	Anniversary Dinner	TBA	Ron Zingler
Sunday December 8th	Commanders Holiday Party	Hoffman Estates	Frank D'Amico

Charter Fishing Derby—June 8th

the boats depart from North Point at noon

We have two boats and one slot still available!
Each boat holds 6 people. Estimated cost is \$130 per person,
depending on the number of people attending.
Contact dave-sue-anthony@comcast.net for details.



DISTRICT 20

2024 Spring Conference and Change of Watch

8-9 March, 2024
 Holiday Inn Chicago Northwest
 495 Airport Rd., Elgin, IL 60123



Room Rates: Standard King \$115/night, Standard Double Queen \$125/night; Junior Suites (King/Queen), Executive Suites \$139/night. Room block is limited. **The deadline for making hotel reservations is 8 February.**

Call (847) 488-9000. Mention "United States Power Squadron District 20" block to receive discounted rates.

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

Luncheon Choices : Price \$28 per person

_____ St Brigid Burger: Includes cheese, bacon, onions and mushrooms on a Brioche Bun w/fries.

_____ Bennigan's Club: Honey wheat bread with ham, turkey, bacon, tomato, lettuce and cheese w/fries

_____ Kilkeny's Country Chicken Salad: Grilled chicken with garden greens, bacon, cheese, eggs, and tomatoes w/honey Dijon dressing.

Dinner Choices: Price \$50 per person

_____ Grilled Salmon

_____ Mushroom Champagne Chicken

_____ NY Strip Steak

(Lunch includes coffee, tea or soft drink. Dinner includes salad, rolls, Chef's choice of starch & vegetable, coffee/decaf, tea or soft drink)

	<u>Meals</u>	x		=	\$	<u>Total \$</u>
Luncheon:	_____	x	\$28	=	\$	_____
Dinner:	_____	x	\$50	=	\$	_____
			Total:		\$	_____

Make checks payable to: **WSPS**
 Registration and check should be sent by **26 Feb**
 to: **P/Lt/C Ellen Ludtke AP,**
11419 Zarnstorff Rd., Richmond, IL 60071

Schedule of Events

Friday 8 March:

1500-1800	Registration - Lobby/Hallway
1830-2030	Cocktails - Cash Bar
1900-2030	Games: Test your boating connections and explore new ones.
2030-2230	Hospitality Suites

Saturday 9 March:

0700-1000	Coffee/Tea & Snack in the Friendship Room - Sapphire Room
0800-1100	Registration - Lobby/Hallway
0900-0950	Educational Meeting - D/Lt/C Scott Harmon
1000-1050	C/C Message and updates from the National Meeting - D/C Mike Ludtke
1100-1150	Keynote Speaker - Mike O'Malley "Does Size Really Matter?"
1200-1300	Lunch
1315-1330	Verification of Delegates
1330-1530	Spring Conference Meeting
1700-1800	Cocktail Hour—Cash Bar
1800-2030	Banquet & Change of Watch
2030-2230	Hospitality Suites

Dress Code:

Friday night: Theme is Lighthouses
 Saturday: Uniform G (short sleeved shirt no tie) or business casual
 Banquet: Business Casual

America's Boating Club North Shore Change of Watch Sunday April 14th



Dover Straits
890 E. US Highway 45
Mundelein, IL 60060
www.doverstraits.com

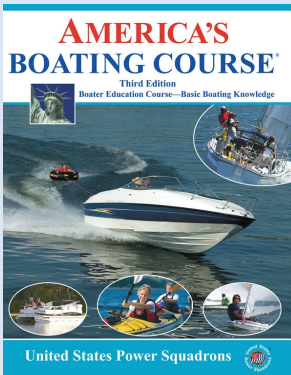
Join us for the 2024 Change of Watch
as we celebrate the events of
the past year and swear in our
Bridge Officers for the coming year

Cocktails at 2 PM; Dinner at 3 PM

We will order from the menu, separate checks



RSVP to Frank D'Amico
by April 7
fdamico@ameritech.net
or 224-238-7372



We are offering America's Boating Course over 6 nights
Tuesdays and Thursdays, April 30-May 16, 6:30-8:30 PM at
Mt. Prospect Police Station

The most comprehensive, single source, in-person boating course. Taking
the boating class reduces risk of accidents and injuries, saves money on
boat insurance, and qualifies for a state boat license or operator certificate.

If you know someone interested, contact our SEO: chucknav1@aol.com

...Continued from page 3. On Friday night, the Districts host hospitality suites and D20 had a great time entertaining. It was so nice to catch up with our friends Pat Antoni and Cindy & Jim Geske who have joined the Tampa Squadron near their home in Florida.

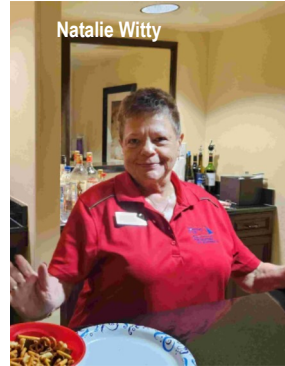
Saturday was the official Annual Meeting of the Governing Board. We welcomed a new Chief, Ralph Bernard, and the National Bridge members. We are so proud of Pat Antoni who was sworn in as a new Rear Commander, reporting to the NEO!



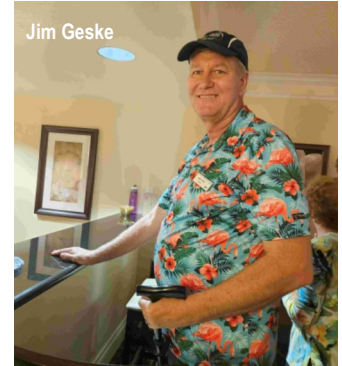
Ellen Ludtke & Frank Antoni



Mike Ludtke & Pat Antoni



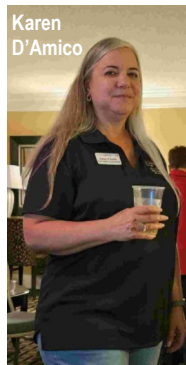
Natalie Witt



Jim Geske



Pat Antoni is sworn in as Rear Commander of the Education Dept Navigation Committee



Karen D'Amico



Joan Eichorst, Jessie Bowen, Rich Davidson

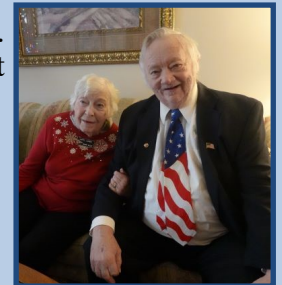


Cindy Geske & Pat Antoni

We were so sad to hear about the passing of our friend P/C Bud Lemke last week. Bud joined Skokie Valley in 1984 and soon became commander in 1989. Frank and I took our first boating course at Hersey High School, which was led by Bud and Caryl. Every year they hosted new member welcome parties at their home for everyone who joined. We enjoyed many cruises over the years, and of course we have great memories at North Point Marina. I can never forget the Hook and Tinkerbell skit at one of the District Conferences that Skokie Valley hosted. That still gives me the giggles just thinking about it!



In the winter, we used to go snowmobiling up north with Bud and the Frosty Club! We had so much fun exploring the trails. For 35 years, Bud dedicated himself to teaching and boating with the power squadron. We will miss him.



Richard J. Calfa

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



1134 N. Main Street
Algonquin, IL 60102



65/19



Christine March
Midwest Regional Manager
815.307.2743

Christine@kanizzle.com www.kanizzle.com

Running Lights

Skokie Valley Sail and Power Squadron

FROM:

P/D/C Karen D'Amico, AP
1240 Bison Lane
Hoffman Estates, IL 60192

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:

D) all of the above



Editor and Publisher

P/D/C Karen D'Amico, AP
RunningLightsEditor@gmail.com

Contributing Editors

Tom Clark, AP
P/C Ron Zingler, AP
Joanne Zingler, AP
Stuart Zwang, SN

Photographers

P/C Richard Calfa, N
P/C Ron Zingler, AP

Production Staff

P/C Frank D'Amico, AP