



Membership Newsletter - Volume 21 Issue 9

Running Lights

September 2021

**District 20 Members Attend the
Summer Cruise & Rendezvous on the Illinois River
at the Illinois Valley Yacht Club**



United States Power Squadrons is America's Boating Club®



A MESSAGE FROM OUR COMMANDER

Doesn't it seem like our winters are so long and our summers fly by? On August 21st I attended the Cruise and Rendezvous at the Peoria IVY Club. It was a perfect venue for the District Meeting. The view of Peoria Lake on the Illinois river was beautiful. The facility was quite nice. We started with a meet and greet with donuts and coffee. Attendees from SVPS were Karen and Frank D'Amico, Rich Davidson, Natalie Witty, Sue Palazzo and myself. There was a good showing both in person and on zoom. Lunch was served and the food was excellent. The meeting was held and District business was conducted. Commanders all reported on past and future activities.



**Skokie Valley Sail & Power Squadron
2021-2022 Bridge**

- COMMANDER**
Cdr Tony Palazzo, AP 847-956-6173
- EXECUTIVE OFFICER**
P/C Frank D'Amico, AP 224-238-7372
- 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**
D/Lt/C Richard Davidson, SN 847-295-8845
- ASSISTANT EDUCATION OFFICER**
1st Lt James E. Soyka, SN-CN 847-635-6239
- IMMEDIATE PAST COMMANDER**
D/Lt/C Richard Davidson, SN 847-295-8845
- ELECTED MEMBERS AT LARGE**
Lt Dave Anthony, P 224-402-3107
Lt Susan Palazzo, P 847-956-6173
Lt Gail Sidman, AP 847-726-7309

Before the meeting there was a movie regarding the River Front Museum. The curator of the Museum went into great detail of what we could expect to see at the museum. There was a guest speaker from the Army Corps of Engineers. The guest speaker talked about the involvement of the Army Corps and the local area river system. It was a very enjoyable day. After the meeting Sue & I along with other members went to the Riverfront Museum where there was a T Rex exhibit and bronze statue exhibit. While at the planetarium we attended a show that was an up close 3D view of the planets, earth and our galaxy. It was amazing how they displayed the Hubble telescope views of our solar system in 3D. If you are in Peoria don't miss the Riverfront Museum and the planetarium. Definitely worth it. A thank you goes out to Rich Davidson and Harvey Young, a member of the Illinois Valley Squadron who organized the event. Thank you both.

Do not forget we have a dinner meeting in Kenosha on Sunday September 12th starting out at Ron Zinger's boat "Gotta Love It" and a dinner at Ashling on the Lough, which is walking distance from the harbor. On September 26th We have a Sundowner at The HOBNOB in Kenosha.

There is an article in this issue of Running Lights about USPS Article 21 that I would like everyone to be aware of (page 5-6). Please read it. The vote on Article 21 will be at the upcoming National Meeting in NC. See it and other dates and times for our events in this months Running Lights. Hope to see you all at the upcoming events.

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—Cdr. Tony Palazzo, AP





Mark Your Calendar



September 2021

1	Wed	Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900	Zoom Meeting, Contact Tony Palazzo
12	Sun	September Dinner Meeting	Southport Marina, Kenosha, WI (pg 4)
15	Wed	Publication Deadline—Running Lights	Karen D'Amico (224-238-7372)
26	Sun	Sundowner @ The HOBNOB	Kenosha WI (below)

October 2021

6	Wed	Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900	Zoom Meeting, Contact Tony Palazzo
15	Fri	Publication Deadline—Running Lights	Karen D'Amico (224-238-7372)
16	Sat	October Dinner Meeting	Dover Straits, Mundelein (pg 7)
29-30	Fri-Sat	D20 Fall Conference	Holiday Inn, Elgin



Sunday Sept 26th



Let's get together at HOBNOB! The atmosphere and food is great as you take a step back in time to 1954 when it opened. It was featured in the Chicago Tribune as the best Supper Club ever. Relax and enjoy an Old Fashioned on the rocks, Grasshopper, or Brandy Alexander overlooking Lake Michigan. An experience you will never forget.



Cocktails at 4:30 pm. Cash bar.

Dinner at 5:30 pm. Order from the extensive menu. Separate checks per table.

**RSVP by Sept 16th
Ron Zingler 847-634-3806
or zingleron@comcast.net**

**277 South Sheridan Road
Racine, WI 53403
www.thehobnob.com**



September Dinner Meeting Sunday September 12th 2021

1:30pm Zingler's "Gotta Love It"

3:00pm Ashling On The Lough Irish Pub

Our September dinner meeting begins with refreshments aboard "Gotta Love It". Afterwards we will take a short stroll for dinner over to Ashling On The Lough (pronounced "läk" – an Irish term for lake). An authentic Irish Pub experience.



Cocktail Hour @ 1330
Gotta Love It—Dock H419

Southport Marina
97 57th Street
Kenosha, WI 53140



Dinner @ 1500 **Cost \$25**

Ashling On The Lough

Entrees: Choice of Corned Beef & Cabbage, Shepherd's Pie, Guinness Pot Roast, Irishman's Fish Fry or Country Clare Meatloaf.

Includes: soft drinks, coffee, tea & iced tea.

Dessert: Chocolate Cake or Key Lime Pie.

**RSVP by Sept 2nd with
entrée & dessert choices**

Ron Zingler @ 847-634-3806
zinglereron@comcast.net





SVPS 2021 Event & Cruising Schedule



When	Event	Location	Host
September 12th Sunday	Dinner Meeting	Ashling on the Lough, Kenosha, WI	Ron Zingler
September 26th Sunday	Sundowner Cruise	HOBNOB, Kenosha WI	Ron Zingler
October 16th Saturday	Dinner Meeting	Dover Straits, Mundelein	Ron Zingler
October 29-30 Friday-Saturday	D20 Fall Conference	Holiday Inn, Elgin	Rich Davidson
November 13th Saturday	Anniversary Dinner	Gusto, Glenview	Ron Zingler
December 12th Sunday	Commanders Holiday Open House Party	Giacomo's Ristorante Italiano, Des Plaines	Tony Palazzo

This article is submitted by Commander Tony Palazzo. The excerpt that follows is a resolution by the Minnetonka Squadron regarding a proposed change to USPS bylaws, which is on the Governing Board meeting agenda this weekend. The bylaw change is regarding the transfer of Squadron Assets to the National Organization.

Article 21 would confiscate local assets of dissolving Squadrons. Article 21 of the National Bylaws of USPS should not be changed at this time for both process and substantive reasons. This proposal was considered and then withdrawn from consideration by the 2020 Rules Committee. It appears now as an orphan provision with little support. The upcoming Governing Board Meeting is again being held in extraordinary circumstances limiting attendance and thus will not have full and fair consideration of the issues presented. There has been little information presented about either the need for this proposed change or the effect that will occur and no opportunity for discussion and thoughtful consideration of the unintended consequences of taking control of assets from squadrons. Below are some of the reasons why the proposed changes to Article 21 are bad policy and should not be adopted.

Accordingly, no changes should be made to Article 21. The proposed Bylaw amendment should not be considered at this time and be either laid over or withdrawn permanently.

Background.

Squadron Assets. Of the 300+ squadrons in USPS, most have a positive asset position, many have significant assets and several squadrons have major investments in squadron assets. Minnetonka Squadron has over 350 members after over 60 years in operation. It has become one of the few squadrons with a major asset, having owned and operated a 9-acre boating destination area for over 50 years. This asset was built, improved and maintained through the personal efforts and resources of members of the Squadron without any help or assistance (or any expectations) from the national organization. It is operated in furtherance of Minnetonka Squadron's commitment to support recreational boating, safety and boater education on our local lake.

Relationship between Squadrons and National. For the 60+ years of its existence, Minnetonka Squadron has had a strong relationship with the national organization—receiving from the national organization, educational, safe boating and other programs for the Squadron to fund, organize and execute for the benefit of the local boating community. It is disturbing to suddenly learn via the Call to Meeting that the national organization was, on its own, making a major change to this relationship by claiming the power to take the Squadron's assets if it separates from USPS.

Article 21: Distribution of Assets after Termination

Current Section 21.1. For the last several decades both the USPS Bylaws and the Model Bylaws for Squadrons have provided that ". . . [Upon separation from USPS] all assets then belonging to the squadron shall be assigned to USPS or to an institution which qualifies for tax exemption under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. . . The recipient of such assignment shall be selected by the squadron's Executive Committee or other comparable body of the squadron."



Continued on page 6...

District 20 Summer Cruise & Rendezvous

Tony Palazzo



Sue Palazzo



Rich Davidson



Natalie Witty



Frank & Karen D'Amico



September Anniversaries

Lorelie Lynn	1974	9 yrs
James Caldwell	2001	20 yrs
Joseph Ratajczak	1968	26 yrs
Kay Widdis	1993	29 yrs
Paul T. Mulroy	1975	47 yrs

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

Cdr Tony Palazzo, AP

Proposed Change. Article 21 is proposed to be changed to force squadrons to transfer their assets to USPS (or an entity controlled by it) as a pre-condition to separating from USPS, thus treating squadron assets as if they were owned by the national organization. By taking away the ability to control the fate of their assets on separation, the national organization has changed a major premise of the relationship with its squadrons. This proposed change is only meaningful if there is a disagreement between the squadron and USPS over distribution of the squadron's assets, in which case the squadron would be overruled.

Article 21 should not be changed at this time because:

- The financial position of each squadron has been built, maintained and operated locally with funds raised and spent locally and assets accumulated solely as the result of local efforts.
- For decades, squadron financial decisions (especially relating to ownership of property and investments) are based on the approved Model Bylaws that give squadrons complete ownership of their assets without interference with those financial decisions.
- To now suddenly place squadrons in danger of losing control over their assets does two things: 1) It is a clear disincentive to local investment in the future success of the squadron. 2) It presents the national organization as more interested in acquiring the assets of successful squadrons than encouraging the development of the squadrons.
- Contrary to the Rules Committee Rationale, squadron fundraising is done locally by and for local squadrons and their sponsors in support of the local boating community. More specifically, member dues are itemized with a specified amount directed to USPS and the district and a specified amount to go to the local squadron.
- There is no reason to make a significant change to the relationship between squadrons and national today. If a squadron seeks to transfer its assets to USPS it can do so without changing the Bylaws.
- Such a major change in how squadrons are treated by national should only be done (if at all) after significant consideration and with a thorough understanding of the consequences of such action.

Preserving the Existing Bylaws Preserves Squadron Independence. Since its inception, USPS has been a collection of local, independent organizations assembled to support a unified mission of promoting recreational boating through local programs (classes, projects, events and facilities) funded and conducted on a local level with only indirect participation by the national organization. To make a significant change in the national/local balance at this point in the development of USPS is ill advised without a thorough and thoughtful process.

October Dinner Meeting

Saturday 16 October at 5 PM

Dover Straits, Mundelein



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

Cost \$30 per person—select your entrée at dinner

Entrees: Choice of New York Strip Steak, Atlantic Salmon Filet, Icelandic Baby Cod Filet, Breast of Chicken Limon, or Jumbo Shrimp and Pasta.

Includes: soup, salad, potato and vegetables, plus rolls, butter, dessert, soft drinks, coffee, tea and iced tea



**RSVP to Ron Zingler
by October 10th
847.634.3806
zingleron@comcast.net**

Richard J. Calfa

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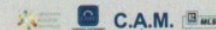
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Running Lights

Skokie Valley Sail and Power Squadron

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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:
Coming again next month!



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