



UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®



SKOKIE VALLEY SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON

DISTRICT 20

Membership Newsletter - Volume 25 Issue 7

Running Lights

July 2025

Cruising this summer to
Milwaukee, WI...

Have a
Happy
4TH of JULY



United States Power Squadrons is America's Boating Club®



A MESSAGE FROM OUR COMMANDER

June welcomed summer with some very hot days. I guess those days were the “warm up” for the summer events. We had to make some changes to our North Point Sundowner & Fishing Derby this year due to the weather. Sue and Dave Anthony were able to reschedule the Sundowner for the following weekend, although the fishermen were not able to go fishing that weekend. As always, the food and conversation were great. Our Fire Master Tony Palazzo gave us a great night around the fire where we continued our sharing of past and upcoming adventures. Thank you all that brought desserts and helped with the cleanup before and after the event. And thank you Stu Zwang for the “interesting” gifts.

June was the start of Milwaukee Summerfest. I’m looking forward to the last weekend (7/3 to 7/6) which Karen and I will be driving up to attend. Several boats from our squadron are going up to Mikinley Harbor for the weekend. It sounds like there is a lot to do and we hope to meet up with others squadron members who will be there too. This will be the starting point for the Luczak’s summer cruise, and I know the Palazzo’s are going back in July for the Air & Water Show too.

The District Trident was emailed out and it contains the information for the Cruise & Rendezvous in August at Heritage Harbor in Ottawa, IL . D/Lt/C Clint Rahn has worked hard to find a location that was accessible to both downstate squadrons and our northern Illinois squadrons. It is only about 90 minutes away and a location where we have been to in the past. The lunch is only \$12 and for the early bird arrivals there will be coffee and donuts. Clint’s article in the Trident lists other activities in the area including a Riverboat sightseeing cruise & boat rentals for those who want to explore the area by boat. If you are interested, save the date for 23 August and see the details in this Running Lights.

There is a National Governing Board Meeting early September in Grand Rapids Michigan. Registration is now open and some events require early registration. This information can be found on the iMIS site.

Our Educational Officer Chuck Burger has recruited a new addition to his department. Gary Raphael, AP was a Past Commander, Executive Officer and Education Officer of Evanston North Shore Power Squadron. He has accepted the position of Public Boating and Advance Grade Chair. He will be working closely with Chuck in scheduling and handling upcoming America’s Boating Club classes and advance grade classes for Skokie Valley. Please introduce yourselves to him when you have a chance and let’s make him feel part of our family.

Have a great summer.

—Cdr. Frank D’Amico, AP





America’s Boating Club North Shore 2025-2026 Bridge

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Cdr Frank D’Amico, AP		224-238-7372
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AXO 1st Lt Dan Luczak, S		708-795-0367
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IMMEDIATE PAST COMMANDER		
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Lt Ray Adam, S		630-347-3495
Lt Dave Anthony, P		224-402-3107
Lt Gail Sidman, AP		847-726-7309

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Mark Your Calendar



July 2025

3-6	Thurs-Sun	Milwaukee Summerfest Cruise	Milwaukee WI - page 4
6-17	Sun-Thurs	Lake Michigan Extended Summer Cruise	Various ports - page 4
9	Wed	Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900	Zoom meeting - page 6
15	Thurs	Publication Deadline—Running Lights	Karen D'Amico (224-238-7372)
19-20	Sat-Sun	Milwaukee Air & Water Show	www.mkeairwatershow.com - page 8

August 2025

4	Wed	Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900	Zoom meeting - page 6
15	Sun	Publication Deadline—Running Lights	Karen D'Amico (224-238-7372)
23	Sat	D20 Cruise & Rendezvous	D20 DAO Clint Rahn - page 7



Grand Rapids, Michigan

Thur 1 PM Registration/Ship Store Opens
9/4 6 PM Welcome Dinner

Fri 8 AM Committee Meetings, Exhibits
9/5 6 PM District Hospitality Suites

Sat 9 AM Governing Board Meeting
9/6 6 PM Banquet Dinner



Fall Governing Board Conference Amway Grand Plaza \$189/night September 2-7, 2025

Login to iMIS to register: [2025 Governing Board](#)

Optional Group Activities

Tuesday 9/2: 2:30 PM Frank Loyd Wright Meyer May House, with Special Docent Tour \$10

Wednesday 9/3: 10 AM Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park \$29, includes narrated tram tour around the grounds, museum, sculptures & largest tropical conservatory in MI

5:30 PM High A League Ballgame, Western Michigan Whitecaps vs Fort Wayne Tincaps \$29, includes \$10 voucher for hot dog & non-alcoholic beverage (*early registration discount ends 7/15 & last date to purchase tickets is 7/30*)

Thursday 9/4: 9:30 AM Grand Rapids Museum & Planetarium on the bank of the Grand River \$20 (5 minute walk from hotel)

6 PM Welcome Friends Dinner \$75

Friday 9/5: 7-9 AM Pre-Conference Breakfast \$45

10 AM Gerald Ford Presidential Museum, self-guided tour \$14 (5 minute walk from the hotel)

Box lunch for everyone \$44

Saturday 9/6: 7-9 AM Pre-Conference Breakfast \$45

12 PM Member or Social Luncheon \$53

6 PM Cash Bar / Banquet Dinner, with entertainment by The Sweet Adelines Barber Shop harmonies \$79



Cruise to Milwaukee Summerfest July 3-6, 2025 By Boat or By Car!

By Boat: Slips must be reserved with McKinley Marina (414-273-5224) and they will put you on a list. You will be notified if they have available slips.



- July 3rd: Cruise to Milwaukee - 8:00am departure Kenosha
- July 4th: Day@ Summerfest - band Chicago playing 9:30pm at BMO Theatre
- July 5th: Day@ Summerfest
- July 6th: Return to home port

By Car: www.summerfest.com/getting-here/

Consider staying at the Plaza Hotel, conveniently located between the festival and McKinley Marina (1007 N Cass St, Milwaukee, WI 53202)

General Admission Tickets: \$30 available online or at box office

Summerfest Hours: Noon to midnight

www.summerfest.com/ticket-info/

Download the free Summerfest App
 access to tickets & interactive festival maps
www.summerfest.com/summerfest-app/

Contact Ron Zingler if you are attending
 847-946-2516 or zingleron@comcast.net



Lake Michigan Summer Cruise

Extend your Milwaukee Summerfest trip 2 more weeks starting from McKinley Harbor and traveling around the Lake...

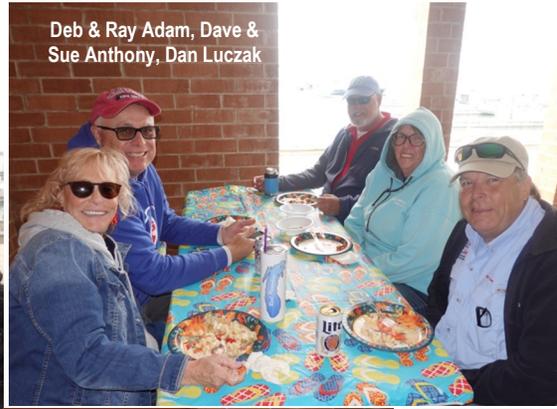
Arrival	Depart	Trip	Port	Nights	Miles
7/3-Thurs	7/6-Sun	NorthPoint to McKinley	McKinley	3	41
7/6-Sun	7/7-Mon	McKinley to Manitowic	Manitowic Marina	1	75
7/7-Mon	7/9-Wed	Manitowic to Frankfort (Cross)	Jacobson Marina	2	78
7/9-Wed	7/11-Fri	Frankfort to Mainistee	Mainistee Muncipal	2	27
7/11-Fri	7/13-Sun	Mainistee to Ludington	Harbor View	2	25
7/13-Sun	7/15-Tues	Ludington to Grand Haven	Grand Haven Muncipal	2	65
7/15-Tues	7/17-Thurs	Grand Haven to Saugatuck	Singapore	2	30
7/17-Thurs	7/17-Thurs	Saugatuck to NorthPoint			80

Contact Dan Luczak to join the cruise at any port! 708-795-0367

North Point Sundowner



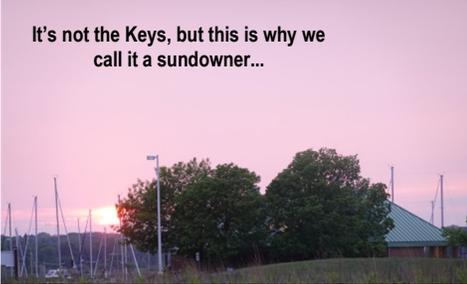
Gary Vinzant, Stu Zwang, Joe Paldo, Ron Zingler, Lorri Zwang



Deb & Ray Adam, Dave & Sue Anthony, Dan Luczak



Don & Gail Sidman with Bailey



It's not the Keys, but this is why we call it a sundowner...



Mike Ludtke, Susan & Tony Palazzo



Ron Dziagwa



Joanne Zingler



Ray & Deb Adam, Dave & Sue Anthony, Dan Luczak



Tony Palazzo, Ron Zingler, Gary Vinzant, Joanne Zingler



Lorri & Stu Zwang, Sue & Tony Palazzo, Ron Dziagwa



Fire Master Tony Palazzo kept us warm well into the evening



Frank & Karen D'Amico, with Kaiya and Willow



July Anniversaries

Bonni Breen	2018	7 yrs
Michael Palazzo	2008	15 yrs
Stephanie Palazzo	2008	15 yrs

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



SVPS 2025 Event & Cruising Schedule



When	Event	Location	Host
July 3-6	Summerfest Milwaukee Cruise	McKinley Harbor, Milwaukee WI 414-273-5224	Ron Zingler
July 19-20	Milwaukee Air & Water Show	McKinley Harbor	Tony Palazzo
August 23	D20 Cruise & Rendezvous	Heritage Harbor, Ottawa, IL	District 20
September 2-7	America's Boating Club Fall Governing Board Meeting	Grand Rapids, MI	National Meeting
September 21	Dinner Meeting	Reflections	Ron Zingler
Sunday October 19	Lake Geneva Boat Cruise Tour— Sunday Brunch	Lake Geneva, WI	Frank D'Amico
Saturday October 25	District 20 Fall Conference	TBD	District 20
Sunday November 9	Anniversary Dinner	Dover Straits	Ron Zingler
Sunday December 7	Commanders Holiday Party	Hoffman Estates	Frank D'Amico

Team North Shore

Executive Committee Meeting: July 9 at 7:00 pm Central
Zoom Meeting ID: 868 7111 5662, Passcode: 485679
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86871115662?pwd=Kf8CPv4F2vg7Kf17AqutbO2Vjm8Ns6.1>
Dial by your location: +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
One tap mobile: +13126266799,,86871115662#,,,,*485679# US (Chicago)

Download [America's Boating Club](#) mobile app. It's a great resource for everything we teach in America's Boating Course right in your hand. Plus, a built in feature to quickly send a float plan to friends and family, when on the water or taking a road trip.

NEW

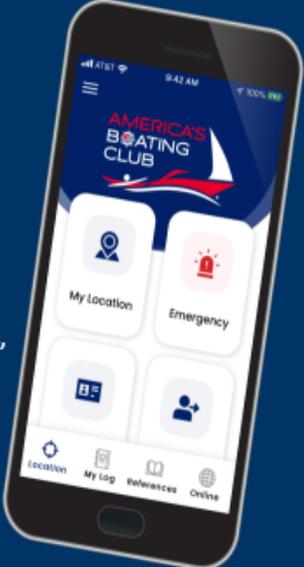
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CAPTAIN AHAB'S QUIZ

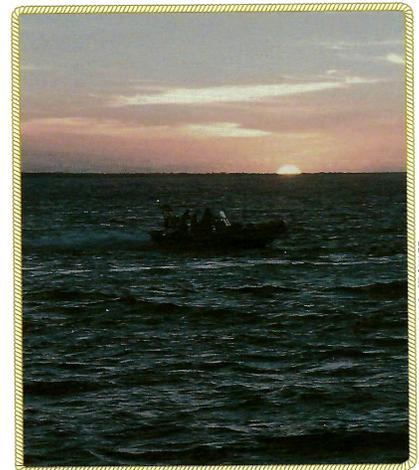


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE U.S. COAST GUARD

When underway at night, avoid using white lights (they will temporarily impair your "night vision"). Recovery from exposure to a bright light may take up to ___ min.

(see answer on back page)

Tom Clark, AP, Contributing Editor
 Courtesy of Perchant Publishing

**DISTRICT 20
Cruise & Rendezvous**

**Saturday 23 August
Knots Landing
Heritage Harbor
1970 N 2753rd Rd
Ottawa, IL 61350**



Rank	Name	Grade	Squadron	Email	Telephone
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-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Schedule of Events

- 1000 Welcome**
- 1100 D20 Council Meeting**
- 1230—1345 Lunch \$12**
- 1430—1630 Sightseeing Cruise**
- St Genevieve Riverboat \$37**

Dress Code: Casual

When entering the marina there is a sign for Knots Landing. You can park along the road and walk down the steps or optionally park near the restaurant and follow the Harbor Walk down to the facility. There are restroom facilities located next to Knots Landing.

Lunch: \$12 per person

All lunches include : Chicken, pasta, green salad and dessert

<u>No. Attending</u>		<u>Total</u>
_____	x \$12.00 Lunch	\$ _____

RSVP for lunch orders by August 16
Clint Rahn: WSPS6125@gmail.com

Send registration form & check payable to: Waukegan Power Squadron by August 7, 2025
 Clint Rahn
 340 Wethington Dr.—Unit D
 Waconda, IL 60084

Sainte Genevieve Riverboat Sightseeing Cruise

For those wishing to take this trip, the cost is \$37 (10% discount for seniors) for a 2-hour narrated cruise on the Illinois River. Reservations are recommended. It is about a 10-minute drive from Heritage Harbor and there is a cash bar on the boat.

Buy your tickets at: <https://stegenriverboat.com/cruises/>

<https://www.visitheritageharborinn.com/vacation-rentals/>
<https://www.starvedrocklodge.com/>

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Limited time offer for members



For \$249, you'll receive:

- The BoatFix Monitoring Device (a \$300 value)
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Learn more today: <https://www.boatfix.com/americas-boating-club-checkout/>

Spring Sale \$249

~~\$289~~ Device and First Year Monitoring renews at \$168/year

Milwaukee Air & Water Show

McKinley Park & Bradford Beach
July 19-20, 2025

10 AM: Water Show
12 PM: National Anthem + Parachute Team
3 PM: US Navy Blue Angels Flight Demonstration



Make your own slip reservations at McKinley Marina by calling 414-273-5224 to get on the wait list. Contact Tony Palazzo if you are attending.

BE READY
for the
UNEXPECTED
Always
WEAR YOUR LIFE JACKET



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Tell Your Story

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:

30 minutes

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