



UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®



## SKOKIE VALLEY SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON

DISTRICT 20

Membership Newsletter - Volume 25 Issue 11

# Running Lights

## November 2025

**November Anniversary Meeting**  
**Sunday 9 November**  
**2 PM Cocktails; 3 PM Dinner**



**Dover Straits**  
**890 E. US Highway 45**  
**Mundelein, IL 60060**  
**[www.doverstraits.com](http://www.doverstraits.com)**



*Celebrating our  
64th Anniversary*



United States Power Squadrons is America's Boating Club®



**A MESSAGE FROM OUR COMMANDER**

Fall colors have arrived and most have their boats in storage, ready to take on waxing, painting, or repair activities. The holidays are fast approaching and Christmas decorations appearing everywhere. Skokie Valley has a few more activities before the new year.

Before getting to the November items, I just want to do a quick recap of last month's activities. Our Lake Geneva Brunch was cancelled due to wind conditions on Lake Geneva. It would have been nice to spend some off time with fellow members and friends. I guess I'll have to do my house hunting another time.

This year's D20 Fall Educational Conference at the Holiday Inn and Suites in Elgin was in a different format than previous years. For Friday night, the Past District Commanders agreed to forgo their traditional PDC dinner. Instead we had 25 people who joined them for a great dinner at Jimmy's Charhouse. Afterwards, Skokie Valley and Waukegan had suites at the hotel for people to meet at and socialize. Thanks to both Squadrons for hosting and to Sue and Dave Anthony for extending Skokie Valley's "hospitality" to other members of D20.

The Fall Conference was a one-day event. Coffee and pastries were available in the morning for everyone gathering before the Education meeting or other presentations. My update from the Governing Board covered new bylaw changes involving quorum requirements at National meetings and changes needed for the new Direct to Squadron membership. We also discussed the recommendation for Directors & Officers Insurance and Facebook best practices from the Marketing committee. Many thanks to Karen D'Amico for helping present the materials from the Governing Board. Even though there was no guest speaker, the morning portion flew by. After lunch, the afternoon session was business as usual with Mid-Illini taking home the Prince Henry award and Skokie Valley placing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Attendance award. It was almost as quick as our Bridge meeting, but the topic of educational material costs and costs for America's Boating Course seem to spark some discussion in new business. The topic was passed on to the District Education Department. I thought this format worked well for the number of people that attended.

November is a bit light on activities but there are some important items planned this month. Our SEO Chuck Burger is wrapping up the Marine Navigation class later this month.

We will be celebrating our 64th anniversary for the charter of Skokie Valley. Our Anniversary event will be celebrated at Dover Straits in Mundelein on 09 November at 2 pm for cocktails and 3 pm dinner. I hope to see everyone there.

Finally, Ron & Joanne Zingler are hosting a cruise/event planning meeting on Wednesday, November 19th at their home. We will be planning our cruises and other activities for next year.

Just as a reminder, please add the Commander's Open House on Sunday December 7th to your calendar.

Thank you and I hope to see you at the Anniversary Dinner.



**America's Boating Club North Shore 2025-2026 Bridge**

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<b>TREASURER</b>	Lt/C Sue Anthony, P	224-402-3107
<b>EDUCATION OFFICER</b>	P/D/C Chuck Burger, SN AEO 1st Lt Stuart Zwang, SN-CN	847-322-0828 847-255-9158
<b>IMMEDIATE PAST COMMANDER</b>	P/C Tony Palazzo, AP	630-347-6586
<b>ELECTED MEMBERS AT LARGE</b>	Lt Ray Adam, S Lt Dave Anthony, P Lt Gail Sidman, AP	630-347-3495 224-402-3107 847-726-7309

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—Cdr. Frank D'Amico, AP





# Mark Your Calendar



## November 2025

5	Wed	Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900	Zoom meeting - page 7
9	Sun	November Anniversary Member Meeting	Dover Straits - below
15	Sat	Publication Deadline—Running Lights	Karen D'Amico (224-238-7372)
19	Wed	Cruise Planning Meeting, 7:00 PM	Zingler's House - page 7

## December 2025

3	Wed	Executive Board/Bridge Meeting, 1900	Zoom meeting - page 7
7	Sun	Commander's Holiday Open House	Hoffman Estates - page 5
15	Sat	Publication Deadline—Running Lights	Karen D'Amico (224-238-7372)

# November Anniversary Meeting

## Sunday 9 November

### 2 PM Cocktails; 3 PM Dinner



**Dover Straits**  
**890 E. US Highway 45**  
**Mundelein, IL 60060**  
**[www.doverstraits.com](http://www.doverstraits.com)**

Our 64th Anniversary dinner meeting will take us to the shores of Dover Straits in Mundelein. Better known for their fresh fish, they also serve a variety of American fare.

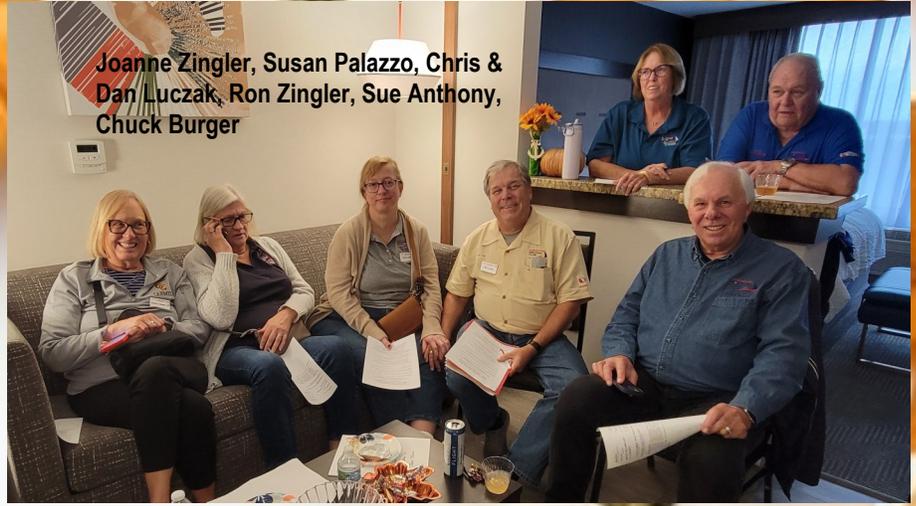
We will order from the extensive menu with cash bar and separate checks



**RSVP to Ron Zingler**  
**by November 4th**  
**[zingleron@comcast.net](mailto:zingleron@comcast.net)**  
**847.634.3806**



D20 Commander Frank D'Amico



Joanne Zingler, Susan Palazzo, Chris & Dan Luczak, Ron Zingler, Sue Anthony, Chuck Burger

### District 20 Fall Conference

Thanks to Dave & Sue Anthony for hosting a hospitality suite for all at the D20 Fall Conference. We had 25 people who enjoyed a great dinner at Jimmy's Charhouse on Friday night and came back to the room in the evening. Then Saturday afternoon after the conference, they also hosted our SVPS October membership meeting in their suite.



Rich Davidson, Ron Dziagwa, Fred Schuster, Dave Anthony



Gary Vinzant, Natalie Witty



Ellen & Mike Ludtke



Karen & Frank D'Amico



PDC Chuck Burger & PDC Dennis McNamara



PDC Natalie Witty



PDC Rich Davidson & PDC Terri Phillips



## SVPS 2025 Event & Cruising Schedule



When	Event	Location	Host
Sunday November 9	Anniversary Dinner	Dover Straits	Ron Zingler
Sunday December 7	Commanders Holiday Party	Hoffman Estates	Frank D'Amico

# Commander's Open House Sunday 7 December 2025 1 PM ~ 5 PM

You are cordially invited to celebrate the  
holiday season at the home of  
Frank and Karen D'Amico

Come anytime. Food and drinks will be served.  
No need to bring anything

1240 Bison Lane  
Hoffman Estates, IL  
224-238-7372



## The Circle of Seamanship by PDC Pete TenBrink

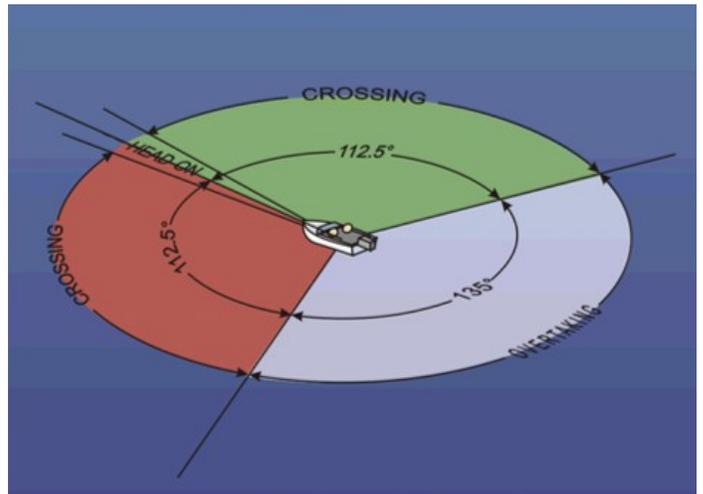
There are key words in seamanship that are very useful but sometimes confusing. There is a fanciful legend that early boaters used a board to steer their vessels. Since most were right handed, the right side became known as the "Steer Board" side. Because the Steer Board Side would not be placed against a dock, the left side, or dock side of the vessel became known as the "Port Side". As time went on, the expression "Steer Board" for right side evolved into "Starboard".

Knowing these terms is valuable when discussing nautical right of way. When two boats approach one another, neither has the right of way! You may pass each other on either side although you should try to pass port to port. When boats approach from any other point, several other rules must be considered. In this writing we will focus primarily on the actions to be taken by approaching vessels all under mechanical power.

The US Coast Guard's COLREGS (Collision Regulations) provide us with a circle of explanation that clarifies the geometry of right of way. The circle above displays the angles of right of way that apply both in day and night. At night, the placement and projection of navigation lights serve to signal clearly those angles. During the day, the same angles indicated apply, even though the lights may not be seen.

With the exception of Personal Watercraft and small paddle craft which have separate rules according to the state, all boats must display a red navigation light on the port (left) side of the bow. Between two approaching power boats, this signals that vessels approaching from your left side must "stop" or give way. Conversely, the display of the green navigation light on your starboard bow indicates that you are giving the go ahead to any vessel approaching on your right side and that you will stop or give way to them. Your white stern light tells to every vessel to your rear, that they must give way to you when trying to overtake you.

The red and green navigation lights must be visible from your bow tip to 112 ½ degrees aft on the respective side of the boat. Boats under mechanical power must display a white all around light. All vessels must also display the white stern light that must be seen in that 135 degree area in the back of the vessel not covered by the red and green. Some boats engaged in towing or fishing display very specific lights that they show. You should get to know them so you know how to avoid mishaps.

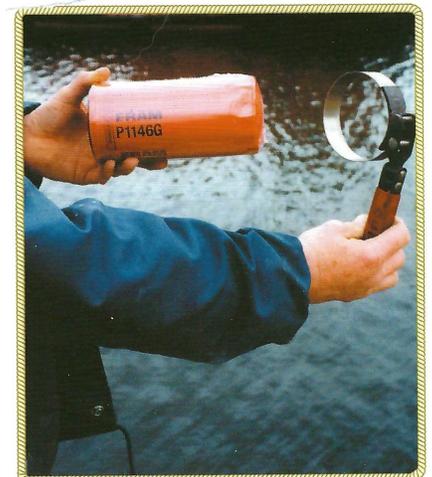


### November Anniversaries

Ray & Deb Adam	2021	4 yrs
Ron & Joanne Zingler	2006	19 yrs
Gary Vinzant	2002	23 yrs
Gary M. Raphael	1997	28 yrs
John Cahill	1996	29 yrs

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

### CAPTAIN AHAB'S QUIZ



To avoid crushing an oil filter while trying to remove it with a filter wrench, place the wrench where the filter is strongest: which is at the **very top**, **very bottom**, or in the **middle**?

(see answer on back page)

Tom Clark, AP, Contributing Editor  
Courtesy of Perchant Publishing

## 2026 Cruise Season Planning Meeting Wednesday November 19 at 7 PM

Bring your ideas to plan fun events to fill our cruising schedule calendar for next year! All are welcome to attend!

Hosted by Ron & Joanne Zingler  
1307 Green Knolls Drive, Buffalo Grove, 60089



Remember to use the new iMIS (member information system) to manage everything about your USPS member account. See the [USPS website](#) for detailed instructions on these tasks.

With iMIS, you can:

- ◆ Change your member portal (i.e., iMIS) password or username
- ◆ Pay your dues
- ◆ Update your member information, including phone, email address, home address
- ◆ Add a seasonal address if you plan to have an extended stay somewhere for the winter season
- ◆ Post and view squadron events
- ◆ Register for activities at national meetings
- ◆ Donate to Life Member Fund, Education Fund and Endowment Fund

# Team North Shore

Executive Committee Meeting: **November 5 at 7:00 pm Central**

Zoom Meeting ID: **868 7111 5662**, Passcode: **485679**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86871115662?pwd=kf8CPv4F2vq7Kf17AqutbO2Vjm8Ns6.1>

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

**District 20:** [www.uspsd20Boating.org](http://www.uspsd20Boating.org)

**USPS:** [www.AmericasBoatingClub.org](http://www.AmericasBoatingClub.org)



Captain Ahab answer:

Very top or bottom

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