



# TRIDENT

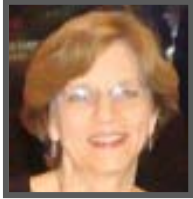
UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®  
District 20



Fall 2013 Volume 58, Issue 2

[www.uspsd20.org](http://www.uspsd20.org)

## Commander's Note



D20 Commander  
Caren Canfield, JN

The cold has arrived, as usual, this year, and hopefully all boats have been winterized and put away for the year. Pretty much since our Conference last March the D20 Nominating Committee has been approaching our membership in search of volunteers to accept leadership positions in the District organization for the coming year.

It won't be long before new Officers and new Committee chairs will also be on the lookout for willing volunteers.

As a member of USPS, you have the opportunity give part of yourself – your time, energy, skills, and feelings. Your contribution to the boating community can bring feelings of self-fulfillment and the knowledge that you can make an impact, leave a mark, and make a difference. Or, you may appreciate the opportunity to work with new people and meet new friends, or the opportunity to learn a new skill.

The District is involved in many programs, projects, and events. But it is not the programs, projects and events that are most important. It is working together on them. That is how we get to know one another and become friends. When we work on community service and continuing education projects, we sometimes lose sight of the most important of the primary objectives of USPS. It is the enjoyment of “the friendship and camaraderie of our fellow members.”

Accepting a leadership role in D20 is also a way of saying thank you. It's a way of recognizing the countless others who, in big ways and small, have made life richer and better through donations of time and effort. But there is more to accepting that position than giving. As a member of the bridge, or chair or member of a committee, you also reap personal benefits and enhance your personal growth. That's the thing about volunteering. You get as much out of it as you put into it! And often, you get a whole lot more.

Research shows that those who volunteer live longer, healthier lives. In addition to feeling great about your efforts, you have the opportunity to:

- share a skill
- feel needed
- get to know other boaters
- demonstrate commitment to a cause/ belief
- gain leadership skills
- do your civic duty
- receive satisfaction from accomplishment
- keep busy
- earn recognition
- donate your personal skills
- have an impact

- learn something new
- escape
- be challenged
- feel proud
- make new friends
- help someone
- as therapy
- do something different from your usual routine
- have fun!
- keep skills active
- have an excuse do what you love
- be able criticize constructively
- assure progress
- feel good
- be part of a team
- because you were asked
- test yourself
- be an agent of change

So whatever your motivation, when a fellow member calls, take into account how volunteering will benefit you, consider it your opportunity to enhance and promote USPS® as the premier boating organization dedicated to “Safe Boating through Education” . . . and PLEASE say YES!

Speaking of leadership, SAVE THE DATE for the Squadron Development Workshop, Saturday 15 February. This event is not just for squadron officers, it’s for all of you. Please watch details in the Trident Extra and on SailAngle, and then plan to join us.

Thank you for your continuing support. As we each do a little, we can accomplish a lot. Have fun and ask others to join you. Remember, every friend and member was once a stranger. As John Lennon wrote, “I get by with a little help from my friends”.

## 2013 Fall Conference



This is an example of the food which



This is the “greeter” for the evening.



Here are a few of the denizens who showed up for the party.

Trident Editor  
P/C Susanna Petersen, SN  
Susanna.petersen@att.net

## Execute Officer's Note



D/20 XO  
John R Rowland, N

Greetings fellow D/20 USPS members!

Another boating season is history and I am sure that each of you has good memories and great yarns to tell. Having concluded another safe and enjoyable boating season is a natural benefit of pursuing an education in boating and boat safety through the United States Power Squadrons®.

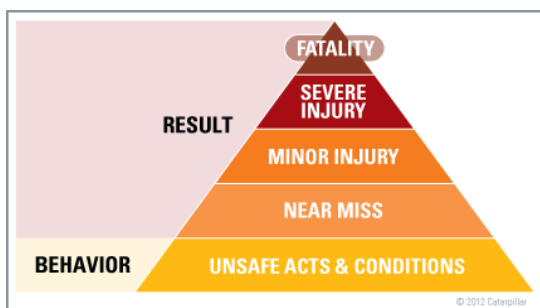
I have been a boater for nearly 40 years and since joining USPS in the last decade I have significantly grown in my knowledge of being safe while boating.

It wasn't that long ago that while sitting at the dock, reading a book, and baking in the sun, I'd think nothing of jumping in the water to cool off or to get a little exercise swimming. Of course I had read the signs posted at the marina advising 'No Swimming at the Docks'. However, I was not the only one enjoying the water and I thought the reason for being advised not to swim near the docks was to protect the marina from being sued as a result of swimmers being hit by an incoming or outgoing boat.

I knew about paying attention to reverse polarity. Reverse polarity in electronics is where the positive is wired to the negative terminal and the negative is wired to the positive terminal. Reverse polarity is a potentially dangerous condition for your boat, yourself and your crew. Since most boats have a reverse polarity indicator on the electronics panel, I have always trusted that my dock neighbors are as conscientious about this as I am. In my years as a boater, there has only been one such time where I had to contact the marina regarding a reverse polarity situation at my dock.

It wasn't until I read the article about electrical shock that Bob Kunatha wrote and was published in the Summer 2013 *Ensign*, that I realized the importance of heeding the sign to not swim near the docks. Bob's reveal of his 'near miss' made an impact on me.

Bob's story also reminded me of the 'Safety Triangle'; a concept that I became especially familiar with during my years in manufacturing.



H.W. Heinrich changed the world of safety fundamentals forever with his pioneering work in the 1930s.

The 'Safety Triangle' concept is that so many near misses lead to an analogous number of injuries and onward through the logic ending in the inevitability of a fatality.

Stated another way, for every fatality, there were 10 severe injuries; for every 10 severe injuries, there were 100 minor injuries; for every 100 minor injuries, there were 1,000 near misses; and for every 1,000 near misses, there were 10,000 unsafe acts or conditions.

If we change our behavior, i.e., stop jumping in the water near where the boats are docked, we have eliminated the unsafe action or condition related to electric shock. If you follow the logic of Heinrich,

you could also say that by eliminating the unsafe action, we have also eliminated the close calls, injuries and fatalities associated with that unsafe act.

Just one more lesson learned as a result of being a USPS member. If you'd like to read more about Bob's story, click this link to the Summer 2013 Ensign:

<http://www.theensign.org/imag/s/summer2013/index.html>

## Educational Officer's Note



D/20 DEO  
Harvey Young, SN

I heard many exclamations from participants that thought it was an excellent conference. I heard many compliments and no complaints of having the Hospitality Festivities in one room. There was more mingling and camaraderie and, at its fullest, there seemed to be room to navigate the room. Kudos go to Lisa Kelso and the conference committees for setting up a very enjoyable evening.

The conference went very well. The schedule was very tight. As DEO I find there are management issues that I will address for future conferences where I feel I can do better and make life easier for those assisting. A special thanks to Tom Parkinson, Ron Herbig, and Jim and Connie Runge for their hard work and assistance. My learning curve in this new position is large and I appreciate having these people involved.

District 20 did very well this past year and earned many awards from National and from D20 Education Department. D20 has two new SNs. D/L/C John Rowland, SN, from Fox Valley Sail and Power Squadron and Lt. Paul Spark, SN, from Skokie Valley Sail and Power Squadron. Congratulations on earning the Educational Achievement Award and the right to use the grade SN after your name.

Teaching Aids this year were sparse. There was one entry. The entry was simple, concise, and easily duplicated which is very important when the Best of Show Teaching Aid is entered into competition at the National Conference in Jacksonville FL in Jan 2014. The Best of Show award went to P/Lt/C Xavier Velasco, AP, from Fox Valley Sail and Power.

ABC3 Outstanding Presentation Awards went to Chicago S&P 3<sup>rd</sup> place, Illiana PS 2<sup>nd</sup>, and Kankakee Valley Sail & Power Sq first place.

Squadron Education Achievement Awards went to Illinois Valley PS 3<sup>rd</sup> place, Waukegan 2<sup>nd</sup>, and Kankakee Valley S&P first place.

Prince Henry the Navigator Awards went to Illinois Valley 3<sup>rd</sup> place, Waukegan S&P 2<sup>nd</sup>, and Kankakee Valley S&P first place. The Prince Henry Trophy will be presented to the Kankakee Valley S&P membership at a membership function to be announced. The Prince Henry Award is awarded to a squadron that has a high percentage of members taking Advanced Courses to achieve the grade of "N".below their AP Grade Insignia. P/L/C Patricia Jorgenson, AP, from Skokie Valley earned this right this year. Congratulations.

R/C Jim Runge, SN, D20 AO, also served D20 in the role as C/C Rep. Along with his address from the C/C, Jim presented a plaque to Illiana Power Squadron for their services to the boating public. The Award is the National Boating Federation Excellence in Recreational Boating Education.

District 20's Educational ranking is 14<sup>th</sup> nationally out of 33 districts, a respectable standing indeed.

District 20 had numerous squadrons that achieved national ranking in a number of categories. National Advanced Grade Rankings are Seamanship – Kankakee Valley 3<sup>rd</sup>, Piloting – Illinois Valley 3<sup>rd</sup>, and Advanced Piloting – Michigan City 4<sup>th</sup>. National Elective Course Annual Rankings: Cruise Planning - Kankakee Valley 1<sup>st</sup>, Engine Maintenance – Illinois Valley 2<sup>nd</sup>, Weather – Rockford 3<sup>d</sup>, Instructor Development – Fox Valley 9<sup>th</sup> and Total Elective Courses Annual Ranking – Kankakee Valley 6<sup>th</sup>.

The District 20 squadron with a top ten National Educational Achievement Award ranking is Fox Valley, 10<sup>th</sup> place. This is a rating of the highest percentage of members earning the grade of SN per squadron.

There is a lot of work going on at national HQ regarding course updates, HQ800 is being upgraded, updated and made more user friendly, Courses are being reformatted so they can be used for students wanting courses online. Students are requesting formats that will work on iPad, Kindle, and similar devices. The best report I can give you now is STAY TUNED! I am told that not much of this will likely be ready before Spring Conference but we can hope. Spring is given as a target “date” for a number of these items.

### **Boat Operator Certification (BOC)**

District 20 is very fortunate to have Pat Antoni as the Regional Director for The BOC Midwest Region in our district. Dick Spurr, ARD and Pat have been very active in the BOC program. Pat and Dick are preparing a comprehensive marketing approach to promote POTW, On the Water Training, and BOC in D20 for 2014. A lot of thought and work has already gone into it. District 20 SEOs need to begin thinking about this program for their squadron for 2014. The merits and benefits of this program are valuable in building confidence and boating skills regardless of boating experience.

### **PARTNER IN COMMAND – USPS ONLINE SEMINAR**

USPS introduced *Partner in Command* as the first of many new online seminars and courses from the most trusted name in recreational boating education. Do you know someone who wants to become more confident with anchoring, docking, signaling, handling emergencies, first aid and more? *Partner in Command* provides essential information about how to safely operate a boat. Students will

- get an in-depth introduction to boating
- understand anchoring, docking and navigation
- be able to assist during bad weather and onboard emergencies
- enjoy fully interactive learning from the comfort of home

Forward this email and encourage your friends and family to **sign up** today for this comprehensive introduction to boating.

Help spread the word by “liking” the [USPS](#) and [BoatU.S. Foundation](#) Facebook pages, following them on Twitter, reTweeting, and sharing posts about the new online courses and seminars. More online courses are coming soon!



## Administrative Officer's Note



D/20 AO  
James J Runge, SN

The Administrative Department is responsible for a number of areas in the District. Conferences, membership recruiting & involvement, and operations training workshops (now called squadron development workshops) are some of them. In this article I will address those areas.

First, from the **conference** standpoint, there are a number of events coming up. The first is in February and is actually a workshop. More on that will follow, but at any rate, reserve the date of February 15, 2014. There will be a Squadron Development Workshop at Cabela's in Hoffman Estates on that date.

In March on the 14-15, 2014 the Spring Conference will be at the Abbey in Fontana, WI. It is sponsored by Skokie Valley Sail and Power Squadron and is our traditional change-of-watch conference. Be there to say goodbye to the old bridge and welcome in our new commander and bridge.

On July 25-27, 2014 we will be having our Summer Rendezvous at a fantastic site—the Columbia Yacht Club on Lake Michigan in Chicago. There's even the opportunity to bring your own boat. The event is sponsored by the Chicago Sail and Power Squadron and should be very entertaining in a great venue.

The 2014 Fall Conference scheduled for October 17-18, 2014 is being hosted by the Fox Valley Sail and Power Squadron. They are still in the planning stage but I'm sure we can expect a good time.

### Membership IS Job ONE



In the area of **membership and member retention**, we have a number of programs and contests designed to invigorate membership and help squadrons maintain their health.

An article this size can only touch on some of the main points of much of the material available. The real resource is the Administrative Department home page in the USPS National website. Finding it is easy. Go to the USPS home page and click on the site map. The second item in the left hand column is the Administrative Department. Click on that and a whole world of member recruitment and retention aids is made available. Here are some of the highlights:

The Administrative Department areas that squadron members and those with special interests in squadron activities will find most useful are member recruitment, member involvement, member benefits, and youth activities.

There are a number of presentations that are of interest. There is one on squadron revitalization, one on squadron survival 101, one on successful recruiting and retention, and, finally, one on navigating HQ800 (this one is not just for SEOs, but anyone who is involved with public and squadron education). There is also a presentation on navigating SailAngle. I should mention here that more and more, all elements of USPS, especially at the District level, are beginning to rely on SailAngle to pass on important information to all squadron members.

There is a section on the Boarman Youth Poster Contest, the Boat US Civic Service award, Doing it Right, the Finley Sea Scout award, the Growth award, and the MIRA award. If you don't know anything about these awards and want more information, check them out in the Administrative Department web site.

I also mentioned many of them in my report to the Fall Conference. My report can be found on SailAngle if you didn't get a copy of it through email or at the Conference in Springfield. By the way, I should mention that the Conference was a good time and very informative. The speakers were entertaining and the food for supper at Saputo's was outstanding. Many awards were given out and it was clear that our District is working hard to maintain the standards of USPS in all areas.

There is also a really helpful section in the National Administrative Department web pages entitled **How To...** The **How To...** involves adding new members, transferring members, reinstating members, recruiting Cyber members, recruiting Boat US online members, honorary memberships, and using HQ800.

A section entitled **Tools** includes a new member handbook, a really neat membership analysis tool using DB2000 that gives a step by step instruction on creating an analysis of your squadron. There is also a section that just includes all the forms that USPS uses for membership and, finally, there is a section of brochures. These include member benefit brochures, new member handbooks, the complete member manual, and a new member orientation brochure. At the last Council meeting a number of commanders indicated that they would like a little more help in the membership recruiting and retention area. The Administrative pages of the USPS website are a good place to start. The information, as well as the brochures, is free and all it takes is a little time to get some good ideas that maybe your squadron can use in the membership area.

This year on February 15 our District-sponsored Squadron Development Workshop, promises to be an interesting one. First, we are holding it at Cabela's in Hoffman Estates. If you haven't been there yet it is a must-see. They have a lot to just look at relating to nature and the outdoors and they also sell a lot of quality items relating to the outdoors.

Not only do we have a really cool venue, but the workshop looks to be a very rewarding experience. The Town Hall meeting in the morning lets you interact with your District Bridge. Ask us questions and get immediate feedback--this is for all district members. There will be seminars on topics of interest to all squadron and district members. There will be an instructor recertification seminar, as well. Lunch will be catered by Cabela's and they have a very unusual selection of sandwiches that I am sure will catch your interest. As the final preparations are made, more information will follow.

I have to say that the conference weekend in Springfield was a real treat. Connie and I went a few days earlier to see the historical sites and wound up in some really intense rain storms. We did see the Lincoln Museum and managed to go past a few other sites. The Friday night party was great. The costumes and food were outstanding, and we got to talk to a lot of our friends from throughout the district. The keynote speaker on Saturday was very captivating and everyone learned a lot of good information. The seminars were well-attended and informative. The meals were excellent and our evening party was a great success. Lisa Kelso and her crew from all the downstate squadrons really put on a quality conference. They are to be congratulated for a job well-done.

## Secretary's Note



D/20 Secretary  
Constance L Runge, SN

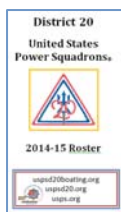
As the Information Disseminator for D20, I try to use as many methods as possible to make sure all members are reached. Events announcements in District 20 are posted on both the current district web page, [www.uspsd20.org](http://www.uspsd20.org), and the new format, <http://uspsd20.org>, as are National and submitted squadron events. These announcements

generally contain links to more complete information about the events. SailAngle is used to issue invitations and reminders to the entire district membership. Members can respond to the RSVP on SailAngle. More information on these events can be accessed on SailAngle in the D20 file cabinet under *Trident & Trident Extra*. The information is also sent to the squadrons for publication in their newsletters. Be sure to take the time to check out these sources when the notices come out.



District 20 is in transition from the current webpage to the new format which is still being developed. It is accessible at the following: [uspsd20boating.org](http://uspsd20boating.org). The link for the current webpage is [www.uspsd20.org](http://www.uspsd20.org).

If not already done, squadrons should make arrangements with Cdr Jeff Geltz, JN, [jeff@jgeltz.com](mailto:jeff@jgeltz.com), to get their web page transitioned to the new template. Cdr Geltz will be presenting a seminar on the new web page template at this year's Squadron Development Workshop being held at Cabela's in Hoffman Estates, IL. Squadron web pages are accessible from the new web page, so check out Fox Valley's web page on the new template. See what the new template can do for your squadron's web page. Hint: The opening banner on the new template is a slide show of photos about your squadron, so start collecting a gallery of photos from your members. The banner slide show is easily updated with new photos from future events, classes, and activities.



With COW Season right around the corner, I'm sure squadron nominating committees are busy putting together their squadron's slate of officers, elected committee chairs, and appointed committee chairs. This means that it is now 'update the roster' season, also. The call for squadron rosters will be going out soon. Please complete the form and email it back to me, [c.runge@sbcglobal.net](mailto:c.runge@sbcglobal.net), when your slate is complete. The sooner you can send the information, the better. Updating the roster is a labor intensive job at the very least.

Submissions for the Distinctive Communicator Award for publications are due by 30 November, and the submissions for websites are due by 31 December of each year. The beginning date for both awards is 1 January. Squadrons need to submit at least four issues of their respective newsletters in order to be considered for the publications award. Play it safe, submit all of your newsletter issues. The requirements for the awards can be found by going to [www.usps.org/national/commcom](http://www.usps.org/national/commcom). Click on FORMS in the row of links above the text box. There you will find the evaluation forms for both publications and websites. More information and the logos shown here are available by clicking on Distinctive Communicator Award (DCA) in the left sidebar.





Due to an unforeseen set of circumstances, only one member of the Credentials Committee was able to attend the 2014 Fall Conference. Sincere THANKS go out to Credentials Chair Anita Donkers, AP, for all of her work getting the materials for this conference organized, printed, and delivered to the conference despite being unable to attend. Credentials Committee Member Ruth Burd, AP, outdid herself, stepping in and organizing the seat packet assembly, manning the Credentials Table, and collating and tallying the attendance forms; all of this on top of her conference responsibilities as a member of a hosting squadron. More THANKS go out to all of the attendees of the conference who helped assemble seat packets, handed out seat packets, collected attendance forms, and helped with the conference room credentials setup. If you looked around you would have seen P/D/Cs, S/Cs, D/Lt/Cs, D/Lts, P/Cs, Lt/Cs, and members all working together. It was truly amazing. This again proves that when a need arises, Power Squadron members step up and take care of it. Again, thanks to all who helped out!

P/C Susanna Petersen, SN, the *Trident* editor, and I would like to send out a huge “thank you” to all those who responded to our call for articles for this edition of the *Trident*. There is a lot of *stuff* in this issue! Thanks so much!

## Treasurer’s Note



D/20 Treasurer  
Oscar J Lutz, SN

### General Discussion

There will be no District 20 membership dues increase for 2014. If any squadron plans to increase its dues, their membership must approve this change before February 2014. National will send out the dues forms in February and ask the squadrons to report what the new dues will be.

### Membership

Dec. 31, 2010 (1104 members), Dec. 31, 2011 (1076 members), Dec. 31, 2012 (1040 members) and October 31, 2013 (929 members) This year’s decrease is 111 members. Gains were made by four squadrons this year. These were Decatur (+1), Kankakee (+1), Land-Of-Lincoln (+5), and Mid-Illini (+2). Congratulations to these squadrons for their efforts. **Please work on membership retention and trial member retention. Our goal should be to get back to 1000 members.**

### Balance Sheet Assets as of September 30, 2013

The assets on March 31, 2013 were \$29,678.50. The assets on October 31, 2013 were \$32,791.97; included are the total CD fund values of \$26,293.30 and the Checking Account total of \$6,493.67. The gain for the present year is \$3,113.47.

Both Rockford, host of the 2013 Spring Conference, and DuPage, host of the 2012 Fall Conference, returned unused funds to the district earlier this year. Their hard work and good fiscal sense are appreciated.



## 100 Years and All the Stars

P/D/Lt/C Pat Antoni, SN  
2014 Spring Conference Chair

That's the theme of the 2014 Spring Conference being held at the Abbey Resort 14-16 March. We will be celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of USPS and also hosting a District 20 "Hollywood Red Carpet Party" on Friday night that will provide a showcase for many of your favorite stars of yesteryear.

In the past, the only members who dressed up in costume on Friday night were squadrons hosting a hospitality suite. This year we are asking everyone to dress up as a star of the movies, radio or television. Then be prepared to introduce yourself to our interviewers who will greet you on the red carpet entrance to the party. Squadrons who will be hosting a hospitality suite may want to select a specific movie or TV show and have a full cast of characters. As an example, they may want to select the movie "Bride of Frankenstein" and have the monster, the bride, Dr. Frankenstein and all his ghoulish assistants. Or you may want to select Star Wars or Gilligan's Island. The possibilities are endless.



If your squadron is not hosting a suite, you may want to dress up as Rhett Butler and Scarlett O'Hara, or maybe the Marx Brothers. The possibilities are endless. Think about a costume. You don't need to be elaborate; you could be Roy Rogers and Dale Evans with a western shirt and jeans; Or, Jack Benny with a ventriloquist doll; Or, Marilyn Monroe with a halter dress and blonde wig. Or, you could come as you are and just people watch.

After you get to the party, sit back and enjoy the fabulous entertainment we have in store for you. You can either just listen to the music or get up and dance. We were fortunate to find the talented Chuck Drager who does vocal impressions of many of the artists we all grew up listening to on the radio and in the movies.



Don't miss out on the fun. Make your reservations now because the room block is limited. Plan to spend the weekend. There is so much to do in Lake Geneva. Several people asked if they could come early and stay later at the same reduced rate. If the rooms are available, the Abbey is very accommodating. A couple of people have already booked to arrive on Thursday and depart on Monday.

P/D/Lt/C Pat Antoni, SN – Conference Chair – 815-675-6439 – [pantoni@aol.com](mailto:pantoni@aol.com)

Abbey Reservations: 800-709-1323 then press #2.  
Be sure to mention United States Power Squadron, D/20 conference.



# THE ABBEY RESORT

269 Fontana Blvd.  
Fontana, Wisconsin 53125  
800-772-1000

## District 20 Spring Conference 14-16 March 2014

Hosted by  
**Skokie Valley Sail & Power Squadron**

**Room Rate: \$99.00** per night plus taxes and \$12.00 resort fee

*Room Block is limited.* Make Reservations by 1 March— 800-709-1323 then press #2  
Be sure to mention United States Power Squadron, District 20 Spring Conference

**Hospitality Suites: \$199.00** per night plus taxes and \$12.00 resort fee

The resort fee includes: use of 24-hour business center, use of high speed internet in guest rooms, in room safes, individual transportation to area attractions, valet parking, weekend campfires and unlimited use of available sports equipment.

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

First Timer

Lunch	Price	No.	Total
Buffet w/salad & 2 entrees		_____	\$_____
Coffee or Tea	\$23.00	_____	\$_____
<b>Dinner</b>			
Top Round of Beef	\$38.00	_____	\$_____
Chicken Picatta	\$38.00	_____	\$_____
Grilled Mahi Mahi w/pineapple mango salsa	\$38.00	_____	\$_____
Dinner includes Salad, Rolls, Coffee Tea and Dessert	<b>Total</b>		\$_____

Make checks payable to: D/20 Spring Conference.  
Registration and check should be sent by 1 March  
to:

Jim Soyka  
1757 E. Carib Ln  
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056

### AGENDA

Friday:	1500-1800	Registration
	1800-2000	Commanders Meeting
	1900-2000	Cocktail Party and Red Carpet interviews
	2000-2130	Entertainment
	2130 to?	Hospitality suites
Saturday:	0700-1100	Friendship Room
	0700-1000	Registration
	0800-0900	Officers Meetings
	0900-1200	Expo
	1000-1100	Seminar
	1200-1400	Lunch
	1400-1700	Conference
	1800-1900	Cocktails
	1900-	Dinner, installation and raffle

### Dress Code:

Friday: **Favorite star attire** or USPS casual

Saturday (day): Uniform F– White long sleeve  
shirt, black pants and tie

Saturday (night): Uniform A or appropriate attire

## Volunteer for a Boat Show



D/Lt tMike Ludtke, SN  
D20 Boat Show Co-Chair  
D20 Marketing Chair

A recurring theme at district council meetings is dropping squadron membership. Squadrons cancel ABC# classes due to low attendance and can't seem to find a source for fresh new members. Many squadrons, it not all, suffer from the same problems, and there are no easy answers. Wouldn't it be nice if potential members just showed up at your front door, rang the bell and asked about the Power Squadron? Better yet, what if you could find a place where thousands of boaters gather and you had the opportunity to introduce yourself and teach them about safe boating and your Power Squadron experience? Well, there is such a Utopian place, it's the upcoming boat shows.

District 20 sponsors booths at two boat shows in January: the Boat, Sports, & RV Show at McCormick Place, January 16 – 20, and the Strictly Sail Boat Show at Navy Pier, January 23 – 26. Both shows are well attended, and many boaters look forward to them every year. Others will show up looking for their first boat, wondering what they need to know before making their first purchase. A google search of "boat show attendance" brings up several articles indicating show attendance returning to pre-recession levels. That tells me interest in boating is back on the upswing, which is good news for our organization.

Both shows treat District 20 well, with oversized booths and prime locations with lots of traffic. But we can't run these booths without volunteers. I doesn't matter if you are a new member or an old timer, we just need smiling faces to share the United States Power Squadrons story. All we ask is two hours of your time to work at the booth. After your shift, you can turn in your volunteer badge for a wrist band and enjoy the rest of the day at the show for free.

If you can help at either show, or both shows, contact boat show chair D/Lt Gloria Omohundro, AP, at [POGO345@comcast.net](mailto:POGO345@comcast.net) with the date and time you'd like to serve.

You never know where your squadron will get that next member, and the boat show seems like the ideal place to start.



## Save the Date for the 2014 Cruise and Rendezvous July 25 – 27, 2014 at Columbia Yacht Club

Cindy Hopkins, P  
2014 C & R Chair  
Chicago Sail & Power Squadron

Columbia Yacht Club is an incredibly unique place and the Chicago Sail and Power Squadron is excited to host the 2014 Cruise and Rendezvous aboard the Club Ship. It will make our celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of USPS extraordinary. The Club Ship provides views and spaces unlike any other available in Chicago. The Club Ship *Abegweit* is a gorgeous 372' vessel at the foot of Randolph Street in the heart of downtown Chicago. With panoramic views of the skyline, you will be steps from Lake Michigan, the museum campus, Navy Pier, the Magnificent Mile and all that Chicago has to offer.



The *Abby*, as she is fondly called, was built in 1947. She was once a famous ice breaking railroad car ferry running from Nova Scotia to Prince Edward Island. In 1983, the club acquired her to replace the old *Florida*, which had been the Club Ship for many years. The *Abby* was selected because she had only a few cabins and considerable open public space. In addition, she had the “air” of opulence of a luxury liner with her walnut-paneled walls, brass fittings, and impressive grand main staircase. Below the main deck on the railroad car deck, she had room galore. This convinced the membership that she would make a perfect Club Ship.

To bring the *Abby* to Chicago, forty-two Club members served as crew in various positions on the ship, led by sixteen licensed US officers and six licensed Canadian Officers. On April 14, 1983, the *Abby* arrived and docked at Navy Pier amid a throng of Columbia members. When the formalities of customs were completed, those on the dock got aboard their new Club Ship to hear the sea stories from fellow members who had made the trip.

The next day, many members sailed on the *Abby* for her last voyage under her own power. Once the largest icebreaking car ferry in the world, she was now the largest privately owned yacht in the United States and the largest privately owned vessel to transit the St. Lawrence Seaway. The renovation of the *Abby* into the Club Shop was completed with hundreds of hours in volunteer labor.



Over the next few months, we will share other great aspects of the Club Ship and the surrounding area that will help convince you to attend the 2014 Cruise & Rendezvous.



## D/20 Nominating Committee Report

In accordance with the Bylaws of District 20, the following members are hereby nominated for election at the 2014 District 20 Spring Conference. All nominees have agreed to serve if elected. The DEO and Assistant DEO have been approved by National.

<b>Office</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Squadron</b>
District Commander	D/Lt/C John R. Rowland, SN	Fox Valley
Executive Officer	R/C James J. Runge, SN	Racine
Educational Officer	D/Lt/C Harvey R. Young, SN	Illinois Valley
Administrative Officer	P/C Pat Antoni, SN	Skokie Valley
Secretary	P/C Anita Donkers, AP	Du Page
Treasurer	P/C Michael B. Ludtke, SN	Waukegan
Assistant Educational Officer	D/1 <sup>st</sup> /Lt Thomas M. Parkinson, JN	Waukegan

### **Nominating Committee**

Chairman	P/D/C Karen D'Amico, AP	Skokie Valley
Vice Chair	P/D/C Bill F. Erdmann, SN	Racine
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair	Cdr Caren Canfield, JN	Rockford
Member (1 year)	P/C James R. Geske, AP	Chain - O - Lakes
Member (2 Years)	D/Lt/C Oscar Lutz, SN	Waukegan

### **Rules Committee**

Chairman	Cdr Kenneth L. Crutcher, AP	Land of Lincoln
Member (2 Years)	P/C Brent Blair, AP	Rockford
Member (3 Years)	Lt/C Bob Sloat, N	Waukegan

### **Audit Committee**

Chairman	Mark R. Villano, AP	Waukegan
Member (1 year)	P/D/C Richard N. Spurr, SN	Chicago

### **BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE DISTRICT 20 NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

P/C Jim Geske, AP  
P/C Gregory C. Kelso, AP  
P/D/C Bill F. Erdmann, SN  
P/D/C Karen D'Amico, AP  
P/D/C Natalie E. Witty, JN, Chair



## District 20 Bridge

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## District 20 Calendar

### January 2014

9	Bridge Meeting
16~20	Chicago Boat & RV Show
23~26	Strictly Sail Boat Show
26~Feb 2	USPS Annual Meeting

### February 2014

15	Squadron Development Workshop
20	Bridge Meeting
27	Council Meeting

### March 2014

14~16	Spring Conference
15	Conference Meeting
27	Bridge Meeting

### April 2014

11	Council Meeting
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### May 2014

15	Bridge Meeting
17~23	Safe Boating Week

### July 2014

25~27	Cruise & Rendezvous
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### August 2014

TBD	"Cutter" Boat Races & D20 Picnic
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### September 2014

7~14	USPS Governing Board
25	Council Meeting

### October 2014

TBD	D20 Fall Council & Conference
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### December 2014

7	Council Meeting & Holiday Party
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**More information on these events can be found on the D20 websites and on SailAngle in the D20 file cabinet.**

**UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®**

1013 Wheeling Road  
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