



# DISTRICT 20

Membership Newsletter—Volume 64 Issue 1  
Published Twice Yearly

# TRIDENT

## Winter—Spring 2020

United States Power Squadrons is America's Boating Club®

**DISTRICT 20 CRUISE & Rendezvous Weekend  
and Tall Ships Festival at Kenosha WI  
1-4 August 2019**



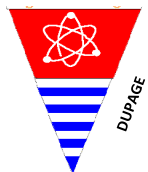
Cdr Rich Davidson, SN (Skokie Valley) and US Coast Guard vessels escorting Tall Ships into Kenosha Harbor



CHICAGO



DECATUR



DUPAGE



FOX VALLEY



ILLINOIS VALLEY



LAND OF LINCOLN



MICHIGAN CITY



MID-ILLINI



RACINE



ROCKFORD



SKOKIE VALLEY



WAUKEGAN

Internet Addresses  
USPS: [www.usps.org](http://www.usps.org)  
D/20: [www.uspsd20boating.org](http://www.uspsd20boating.org)  
Public: <https://americasboatingclub.org>

**UNITED STATES  
POWER SQUADRONS®**

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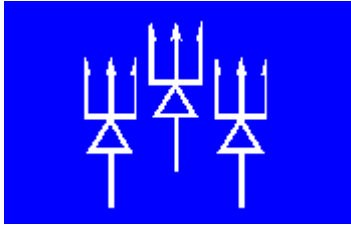
**TRIDENT  
DEADLINE  
15 MAY  
2020**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

Jan 8-12 Chicago Boat, RV and Strictly Sail Show, Chicago IL  
Feb 12-16 USPS National Meeting, Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida  
Mar 20-22 D/20 Spring Conference, Holiday Inn, Elgin  
Sep 9-13 USPS Governing Board, Raleigh, NC

A NEW VERSION OF THE AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB WEBSITE HAS JUST BEEN RELEASED. PLAN TO VISIT THE SITE SO YOU KNOW HOW THE PUBLIC SEES US.

The graphic features a blue background with a white boat on the water. The text 'Welcome to America's Boating Club®' is at the top. Below it are three red boxes with white text: 'Learn boating skills', 'Engage in the fun', and 'Connect with the boating community'. At the bottom, the text 'Find a Home With Us' is followed by a paragraph: 'America's Boating Club® is for all types of boaters – novice or experienced, in coastal or inland waterways. We bring boaters together to improve their skills, make connections, or just enjoy time together. Our boating courses and seminars are just the beginning – beyond the classroom a world of boating fun awaits!'.



## DISTRICT COMMANDER

D/C MARY A. MERRELL, SN

While this was supposed to be a cheerful happy season, my heart is heavy. With the recent passing of 3 members within the 3 weeks. Commander Duane Moore (DuPage), P/D/C Dick Morland (Fox Valley), and P/D/Lt C Oscar Lutz (Waukegan). D/20 appreciates all the time and effort these members put in over the years. Rest in peace gentlemen!

Here we are knocking on the door of a new year and new decade! If you're asked to hold an office, chair a committee, or be on a committee, remember these jobs are NOT 24/7. Sure they do take time here and there but we need to continue working as a team. Don't be quick to say "oh, I can't" think about saying "I'll do my best to help out"! These jobs are also trimmed down with the great technology we have.

Skokie Valley is preparing to host the Spring Conference in March. We will be having a Council meeting Friday night from 7-8. There will also be a special gift presented at the end of the meeting to the one who holds the right ticket. Everyone who attends the meeting will get a ticket. No attendance, no ticket! The Council meeting is held a few times a year and the Commanders of the squadrons (or their

representative) shares the "happenings" of their squadron i.e. classes and other activities. It's enlightening to hear some successes of fellow squadrons.

It's hard to believe but it's time to think about Change-of-Watch schedule. I've been notified of a couple dates already. Please let me know the date of your Change as soon as you schedule it. Also let me know if there is someone you would like to have officiate at your Change-of-Watch and I will do my best to accommodate such requests.

Florida in February sounds nice – it's certainly a lot warmer. The National Annual meeting will be the second week of February. Check into the details on the National website ( also later in this publication) and think about how cold it will be here in February – maybe Florida would be a nice diversion. Hope to see you there.

I'd like to wish everyone a safe and happy New Year!

*D/C Mary A. Merrell, SN*  
District 20 Commander



### CONGRATULATIONS!

P/Lt/C Jim Soyka, SN has joined the ranks of our most active members. Jim has received 25 merit marks for his service to The United States Power Squadrons and has become a life member. Skokie Valley is very lucky to have him in their squadron. Over the years, Jim has held many positions in the Education department. He is the current Assistant Education Officer and Marlinspike instructor for the new Boat Handling Course.

Congratulations Jim.

Rich Davidson (L) with Jim Soyka (R)

## D/20 Nominating Committee Report

In accordance with the Bylaws of District 20, the following members are hereby nominated for election at the 2020 District 20 Spring Conference. All nominees have agreed to serve if elected. The District Educational Officer and Asst. Educational Officer have been approved by National previously.

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Squadron</u>
District Commander	D/Lt/C Theresa A. Phillips, P	Mid Illini
Executive Officer	D/Lt/C Kenneth L. Crutcher, AP	Land of Lincoln
Educational Officer	Cdr Scott Harmon, AP	Land of Lincoln
Administrative Officer	D/Lt/C Stuart Zwang, SN	Skokie Valley
Secretary	Lt John Hatton, AP	Rockford
Treasurer	D/Lt/C Louise M. Potter, SN	Mid Illini
Assistant Educational Officer	OPEN	

### Nominating Committee

<u>Chair</u>	P/D/C Michael B. Ludtke, SN-CN	Waukegan
Vice Chair	I/P/D/C George F. Prescott, SN	Chicago
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair	D/C Mary A. Merrell, SN	Fox Valley
Member (1 year)	OPEN	
Member (2 Years)	P/C Julie Perry, SN	Rockford

### Rules Committee

Chair	P/D/C Pat Antoni, SN	Skokie Valley
Member (2 Years)	OPEN	
Member (3 Years)	P/C Nancy A. Sibrava-Koenen, SN	Chicago

### Audit Committee

Chair	Cdr David W. Sallmann, JN	Waukegan
Member (1 Years)	D/Lt Floyd Miras, SN	Fox Valley
Member (2 Years)	OPEN	

### Respectively submitted by Nominating Committee:

Harvey Young, SN-IN (Chair)

Michael Ludtke, SN-CN

George Prescott, SN

Duane Moore, AP (deceased)

John Hatton, P



As you can see, we have four open positions to fill this year. If you are interested in helping the district please contact Harvey @ 309-256-3532 or talk to anyone on the Nominating Committee



**DISTRICT  
EDUCATIONAL  
OFFICER**

D/Lt/C Theresa A. Phillips, P

The boats should all be safely tucked away for winter now. Our boat was taken in just before the snow fell this year. It's always a sad time of year, taking home the items from the boat and dock box. Now we all turn toward the holidays and sharing time with friends and family.

There was a nice turn out at the Fall Conference, and I want to thank everyone who came to the SEO meeting. The information from the Governing Board meeting, shared thoughts, and questions are a way of us all learning.

There are three boat show mini-seminars are going to be presented at the Chicago Boat show in January 2020. If your squadron is interested in participating in any boat show and wish to present the mini-seminars, please let me know.

One way to add to the ABC classroom may be the On-The-Water program. The programs help students close the knowing-doing gap and offer students the best learning experience by actual experience. Added to this, videos from the America's Boating Channel can supplement the book learning. The America's Boating Channel is available on YouTube, by browsing the channel.

Boat Handling 2019 material has finally arrived The student and instructor materials are available in eBook form, and printed versions will follow shortly. The six-chapter student manual and glossary course contains an interactive online glossary available on USPS.org website. There will be an instructor guide on how to use the course materials for effective instruction available to download. Boat Handling 2019 replaces Seamanship 2016 and Boat Handling 2018 courses.

If cruising is your interest, America's Boating Club has an interactive online seminar for you – Cruising Boats and Systems. This seminar surveys systems and equipment for cruising boats, including types of vessels, various mechanical and electrical systems, navigation systems, safety gear, anchoring and electronic communications. It is fully narrated with graphics, images, video and interactive components. The seminar is self-navigated, so complete it at your own pace and time schedule. Cruising Boats and Systems is now available online.

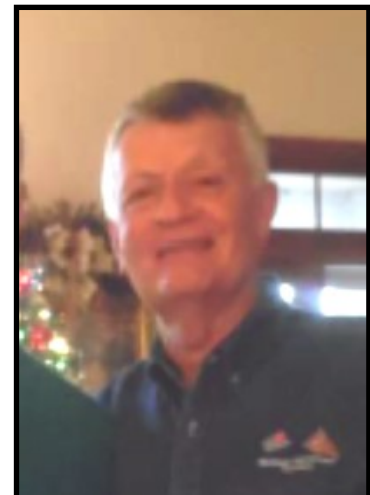
I wish all of you a healthy, happy, blessed New Year!

*D/Lt/C Terry Phillips, P*  
District 20 Educational Officer

**FAREWELL OSCAR**

The life of P/D/Lt/C Oscar Lutz, SN will be celebrated January 14 from 5-8 at Independence Grove Visitors Center, 16400 Buckley Rd., Libertyville, IL. (Near Parking Lot A). You are invited to wear color and bring a few memories to share. Oscar surely inspired many memories. Microphone will be available for all to speak.

Oscar served as district treasurer for many years and commander of the Waukegan Squadron. He will be missed by all who knew him.





## NEW MEMBER BENEFIT

Announced at the Governing Board Meeting

USPS just signed a Memo of Understanding with the **DAN Boater** organization to provide our members with a host of valuable safety resources designed to help you when you travel—whether it's by boat, plane, car or rail. You will be automatically enrolled in the program free of charge. When it's renewal time for your USPS membership you can opt out of the program or pay a small annual fee of \$25.00 per year. This new benefit includes:

- Worldwide Medical Evacuation Coverage—up to \$150,000 in emergency medical evacuation expenses.
  - If you suffer a medical emergency requiring hospitalization they will pay up to \$25,000 for transportation to the hospital of your choice within your home country.
  - They will arrange for and pay one-way economy airfare to return your traveling companion to their original departure point.
  - If you are traveling with children, they will arrange to have them returned to their place of residence.
  - They will arrange to have your vehicle properly

returned to your home or if it was a rental, to the rental agency.

- If you require prescription medication (or eyeglasses) that are not available in your location, they will consult with your prescribing physician, locate a replacement or refill and arrange for shipment.

- 24/7 Emergency Medical Hotline
- Medical Information Line
- Search & Rescue Expense Coverage
- And More ...

Watch your mail for notification from USPS. This is an exciting new benefit just because you are a member of our worthwhile organization. Now you can travel without worrying about any unexpected medical emergencies.

At the time of your membership renewal, be sure to opt out if you do not want to pay this extra fee. Check over your invoice carefully.

## DISTRICT 20 FALL CONFERENCE & EDUCATION AWARDS, 25-26 October 2019

The Fall Conference was held at the Elgin Holiday Inn. This is a small friendly hotel and they were very good at serving our needs. Friday night was a special Trivia Game designed by Cdr Jesse Bowen, P from Waukegan Squadron. Prizes for the winners were presented at the Saturday luncheon.

There were two interesting speakers: Tom Mallaly of the USCG Auxiliary and a representative from Larson Marine. The Auxiliary talked about the similarities and differences between our organizations. That was very eye-opening. Larson Marine talked about connecting the electronics on your boat. Everyone seemed to enjoy it. For me, it was much too technical.

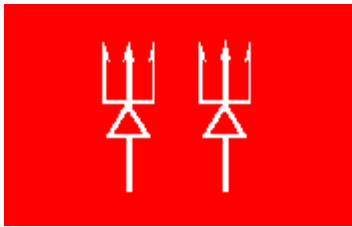
The luncheon was excellent. Many of the education awards were made during lunch to speed up the conference. That was very much appreciated. A list

of the top awards are recapped on the next page.

Thank you Waukegan for organizing this conference. We had a good time and enjoyed comparing boating experiences with members of the other squadrons. Congratulations to all the award winners. It is always exciting and satisfying to know your efforts are appreciated.



Prince Henry the Navigator—USPS highest education award



# DISTRICT SECRETARY

D/Lt/C , Stuart Zwang, SN

Now that we have all finished our boat winterization and done our thing for the holidays, we can all think about going forward to the New Year.

But not so fast...

Let us look back for a few minutes and thank each other for their friendship and help.

- How about that person who helps us dock or launch?
- The friend who says hello at your dock?
- Our spouse or significant other who loves us despite the load of grief that we sometimes spout off in a fit of exasperation?
- The person who waves us on at an intersection when they really have the right of way?
- The quiet service person who does his or her perhaps menial job with dignity and efficiency?
- Our family who is always there for us?

I could go on and on, but you get the idea.

Having said that, I might suggest that each of us makes a personal resolution to return the kindness of others that we enumerated above not only in kind but at least doubled.

Now that we are in the mood, we should also think back and remember with great fondness those that have brought us here, and are no longer with us.

There are far too many wonderful friends that have gone on to their LAST HORIZON.

Now that we have done this homage, we can look forward to smooth sailing and becoming better people and boaters in the New Year.

Happy Holidays

*D/Lt/C Stuart Zwang, SN*  
District 20 Secretary

## Educational Awards Presented at 2019 Fall Conference

### ABC Outstanding Presentation Award

1st Place	Land of Lincoln
2nd Place	Michigan City
3rd Place	Rockford

### Squadron Education Achievement Award

1st Place	Illinois Valley
2nd Place	Mid Illini
3rd Place	Rockford

### Prince Henry the Navigator Award

1st Place	Rockford
2nd Place	Illinois Valley
3rd Place	Mid Illini

### Chapman Award

No nominees submitted

### Educational Proficiency Award

This certificate is presented to the member who has achieved grade level of Advanced Pilot (AP) and successfully completed at least three elective courses. The member receiving this recognition may wear the following insignia on their uniform shirts:



One member received the Educational Proficiency certificate from USPS National and was recognized at the Fall Conference:

- Cynthia Johnson, AP from Waukegan

Congratulations to all,

*D/Lt/C Terry Phillips, P*  
District 20 Educational Officer



# 2020 ANNUAL MEETING



**EARLY BIRD DISCOUNTS END SOON!**



**FEB. 9-16, 2020**



**SAWGRASS MARRIOTT PONTE VEDRA BEACH, FLA.**



## Save money with early bird tickets

Register for 2020 Annual Meeting events by Jan. 10

You can save some green while planning ahead for fun times with friends old and new at the 2020 Annual Meeting, Feb. 9-16, at the Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida.

For a full list of activities, visit the [National Meetings website](#), where you'll find something for everyone—from a distillery tour to a cruise of local waters. Join your friends for luncheons, a keynote breakfast with maritime author Robert Macomber, and the change of watch gala featuring music by the talented husband-wife duo Gatlin.

Don't miss out on the fun; get your tickets before prices increase!

### **FIFTY YEARS! WOW!**

This year marks the 50th anniversary for seven members of the district. Congratulations and thank you for all you have done for your squadrons and the district. You are all life members and between all of you were awarded 273 merit marks! What an achievement!

*D/C Mary A. Merrell, SN*

- Donald Anderson, AP—Du Page
- Ray Buellesbach, SN—Skokie Valley
- David Diehl, SN—Decatur
- Roger Kinzie, SN—Chicago
- John Kuehn, SN—Chicago
- Clifford Shoemaker, SN—Illinois Valley
- Conrad Tome, SN—Chicago





# 2020 Meeting for USPS America's Boating Club

## Complimentary Activities

- Tour historic Tournament Players Club (TPC) Golf Club at your leisure. Travel by hotel shuttle for short ride to the TPC. Lunch is available at the Clubhouse dining room.
- Enjoy a day at the ocean at the Marriott's private beach at your leisure. Travel by hotel shuttle for short ride to the beach.
- Lunch is available at on-site restaurants.
- Conference registration includes continental breakfast on Saturday, Feb 15th.

## Wednesday, Feb 12—Scenic St. Augustine

**Cruise** Scenic Cruise of St. Augustine Waterways aboard Victory III. Depart Marriott by bus at 0930 and travel to St. Augustine. Following cruise, explore and enjoy lunch on your own in historic downtown St. Augustine, the nation's oldest city. Bus will depart for Marriott at 1500.

## Wednesday, Feb 12—Jacksonville Beach Golf

**Outing** This will be a fun, inexpensive (\$55) golf scramble at a beautiful course, not too far from Sawgrass. The recently renovated Jacksonville Beach Golf Club will host our group starting at 1230. Please respond ASAP to Dawn Eckhart if you are interested in playing. More details to follow including registration, transportation, club rentals, etc.

## Thursday, Feb 13—Keynote Breakfast

"Salty Superstitions" - A Lighthearted Look at the Culture of Sailors and Ships At Sea. **ROBERT N. MACOMBER** has been the recipient of the Patrick D. Smith Literary Award, the American Library Association's W.Y. Boyd Literary Award, a Silver Medal in Popular Fiction from the Florida Book Awards, and a host of other accolades over two decades. He has

earned rare experiences like being Distinguished Lecturer at NATO HQs [Belgium], and, for ten years, was invited into the Distinguished Military Author Series, Center for Army Analysis [Ft. Belvoir].

When he's not writing, researching, or on one of his extensive journeys, Mr. Macomber lives on Pine Island, where he enjoys sailing the more remote islands near his home and cooking the exotic cuisines from his novels.

## Thursday, Feb 13—Seminar by Robert

**Macomber** "The Italian Navy's Decima Mas" - an incredible World War II story of the 1st naval special operations unit in history; the professional predecessor of the famous U.S. Navy SEALs. Time 1000-1100; registration is not required to attend.

## Thursday, Feb 13—See Conference Agenda

Open department and committee meetings. Ship's Store.

## Friday, Feb 14—See Conference Agenda

Town Hall meeting in the morning. Education and other department seminars throughout the day. Department lunches.

## Saturday, Feb 15—Annual Meeting

Annual meeting, member luncheon, evening dinner dance.

*For a detailed conference agenda, visit the National Meetings webpage at [usps.org](http://usps.org)*

***Early bird pricing for all activities expires  
January 10, 2020***

Thank you Karen D'Amico, Skokie Valley, for the excellent recap of activities.

## DISTRICT 20 CRUISE & Rendezvous Weekend and Tall Ships Festival at Kenosha WI 1-4 August 2019

The C&R this year was jam-packed with activities. It all started on Thursday with the Parade of Sail where members of the district volunteered their time and/or boats to escort the Tall Ships into the harbor. On Friday the volunteers assisted where needed and had the opportunity to spend time with the crews of the Tall Ships. Friday evening several members attended the Kenosha Rocks the Docks—an evening of wind, water & song on the harbor.

The Council meeting was held Saturday morning at the Kenosha Public Museum. Saturday is also the well known Farmers Market just outside the Museum. There was plenty of time to wander around the tents before the meeting started.

After the meeting, our organizer Mike Ludtke arranged for a quick lunch at the Museum. Then there was time to walk around the festival. It was huge and there were many people in costume. A group of members went for a ride on the Red Witch. It was a beautiful day on the water.

Special thanks go to Mike and Ellen Ludtke and their team from Waukegan for making this an enjoyable and memorable event.



Top: Sunrise on Tall Ships, 2nd Kenosha Public Library, 3rd example of costumes seen around festival, 4th Cruising on the Red Witch. Bottom left: One of the Tall Ships and above center our talented organizer Mike Ludtke

Pictures courtesy of Ron Zingler and Karen D'Amico, Skokie Valley

**CHICAGO BOAT , SAIL and RV SHOW**  
**McCormick Place, Chicago**  
**8-12 January 2020**

The boat show opens Wednesday 8 January. District 20 will be located in booth A625. We will not have the Boating Safety Visual Trainer in the booth this year so the space has been reduced in size. If you have volunteered to stand watch...Thank You!. If not, stop by the booth to say hello to members of D/20 who will be there.

USPS will be part of the show seminar program this year. It is a great way to get our name out and promote our classes. Following is a schedule of the seminars we are offering:

- ◆ ABOUT AIS presented by Terry Phillips  
**11 January at 10:30** in the Windward Room
- ◆ HOW TO READ THE WEATHER presented by Bob Canfield  
**11 January at 4:45** in the Windward Room
- ◆ HOW TO USE MODERN VHF/DSC MARINE RADIO presented by Mike Ludtke  
**12 January at 10:30** in the Windward Room

If you are attending the show on either of these days, stop by their seminar and lend your support.

**DISTRICT 20 SPRING CONFERENCE and CHANGE OF WATCH**  
**Holiday Inn, 495 Airport Rd, Elgin IL**  
**20-22 March 2020**

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the 2020 Spring Conference. Plans are being finalized and a flyer will be ready for you by the end of the month so you can include in your newsletters to help promote this event.

As of today the date is set : 20-22 March and the venue selected : Holiday Inn in Elgin. The reason for this selection is the facility is small and easy to get around, the rooms are clean, the service is excellent and its located close to the Interstate. And best of all the prices are reasonable.

The D/20 commander has decided to hold the Council meeting on Friday night. There will still be time to visit the hospitality suites and meet with members of other squadrons in district 20.

The committee has not selected a theme yet. But we plan to award a prize to the best decorated hospitality suite so put your thinking caps on as soon as you receive the selection later this month. More squadrons should consider hosting a hospitality suite. The room costs are not much more than a regular room and you not only get in on the fun, but you will provide a meeting place for your squadron members. Skokie

Valley always plans their monthly meeting at 5:00 on Friday. They provide free pizza and everyone brings an hors doerve or dessert to pass with the remainder used when the suite is open to the district. It gets better attendance for the meeting and the total event.

Two seminars are confirmed for Saturday (and possibly a third). Rochelle Pennington returns by popular demand.. This will be her third appearance at our conferences. She is an excellent speaker and always entertaining. Her topic is the 1912 Christmas Tree Disaster.

Mike Ludtke will present an update of the On the Water Training Program.

The last decision that needs to be made is to select the menu for lunch on Saturday and the banquet Saturday night.

Look over the slate of new officers included in this publication. We will be voting at the conference and then swearing them in during the banquet. We need you there to vote and to make this event a success.

Skokie Valley Conference Committee.

# TRIDENT

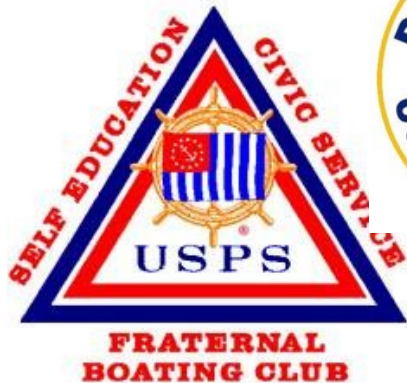
District 20, unit of United States Power Squadrons®

**FROM:**

Stf/C Pat Antoni, SN  
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**TO:**

## First Class Mail



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