



# DISTRICT 20

Membership Newsletter—Volume 66 Issue 1  
Winter—Spring 2022

# TRIDENT

## 2022 SPRING CONFERENCE

United States Power Squadrons is America's Boating Club®

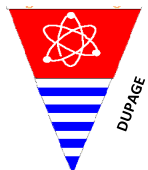
**COME PARTY WITH FRIENDS AT GILLIGAN'S ISLAND  
HOLIDAY INN, ELGIN 25-26 MARCH 2022**



CHICAGO



DECATUR



DUPAGE



FOX VALLEY



ILLINOIS VALLEY



LAND OF LINCOLN



MICHIGAN CITY



MD ILLINI



RACINE



ROCKFORD



ROCK VALLEY



WALKEGAN



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WRECK PASSENGERS  
OF THE S.S. MINNOW**



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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not necessarily those of D/20 and USPS

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**DISTRICT 20  
CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

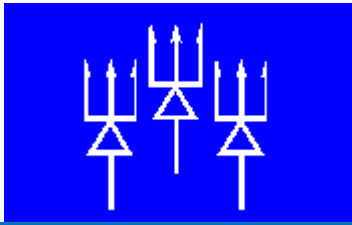
<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION OR CONTACT</u>
January	Chicago Boat Show	McCormick Place, cancelled
February 19-27	National Annual Meeting	Sawgrass Marriott, Ponte Vedra, Florida
March 25	Registration and Party with Music	Holiday Inn Northwest Elgin, IL
March 26	D/20 Spring	Holiday Inn
March 26	District Change of Watch	Holiday Inn
March 26	Entertainment and Dancing	Holiday Inn
May 21-27	Safe Boating Week	Plan your "Ready, Set, Wear It" Program

**News From National**

Our current organizational structure of squadrons, districts and national leadership was created decades ago when we were a much larger organization and needed a hierarchical configuration for communication and coordination. Today, however, total membership is much smaller, there are fewer squadrons, clubs and districts and telecommunications is far more advanced. Some districts are no larger than squadrons; districts are consolidating and too many squadrons and clubs dissolve each year. Commensurately, the number of educational courses completed continues to erode. A contributing factor is that our modus operandi has not kept pace with how today's boater learns, interacts with others and depends on technology. As a result we are challenged to recruit and retain members.

The Board of Directors has created a geographically diverse ad hoc group under the leadership of National Executive Officer Craig Fraser. This committee presented ideas for

Note: Condensed version compliments Chicago Power Squadron Editor



## **DISTRICT COMMANDER**

D/C Terry A. Phillips, P

The holidays have past, and it is now time to start thinking about the future. Today happens to be a wind chill of -4 degrees, and it is easy for me to begin thinking of boating and fair weather.

The Annual Meeting is coming up in February in Ponte Vedra, Florida at the Sawgrass Marriott. The dates are February 19 – 27<sup>th</sup>. One can attend the whole time or pick the days that has activities you would enjoy and stay for the Annual meeting and Change of Watch on Saturday. Check the website under National Meetings for more information.

Our own Change of Watch for District 20 is scheduled for Friday, March 25 – 26 at the Elgin Northwest Holiday Inn, Elgin, Illinois. Come and have some fun! We begin with being shipwrecked on Gillian's Island in costumes of the characters, Gillian, Skipper, Ginger, the Howells and the rest. Entertainment is booked for the weekend, and I know I am looking forward to doing something other than watching television at night. The Change of Watch is Saturday at a delicious sounding dinner. Mark your calendar for camaraderie with your fellow members. There is much more information in this

newsletter.

On the subject of Change of Watch, would you please send me your change of watch date as soon as scheduled. Also, if there is someone you would like to officiate at the Change of Watch, let me know and I will try to accommodate the request. Moreover, please let me know if the COW is virtual or in-person. Thank you.

In the newsletter is the slate of officers for the 2022-2023 year. Thank you to all who volunteered to run. The vote will be held during the Conference meeting on March 26<sup>th</sup>, another reason to attend the Spring Conference.

The weather outside is not what I want, but at the Holiday Inn in Elgin, one does not have to leave the building until check out. That's a very big plus on a day like today.

Keep safe and healthy.

Respectfully submitted,

*D/C Terry Phillips, P*

**District Commander**

## **News From National—Continued**

restructuring America's Boating Club at the 2021 Virtual Annual Meeting, the 2021 Governing Board meeting, the District Executive Officer's online meeting and at various District conferences this fall.

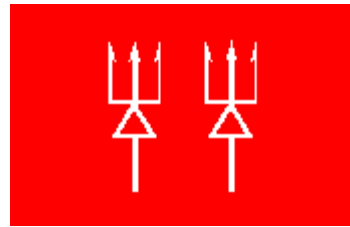
As this is a work in progress, the ad hoc committee solicited feedback. There is a range of options for addressing reorganization potentials, each with pros and cons:

1. Do nothing.
2. Rely on districts but allow more freedom
3. Eliminate districts and provide services directly from national to local squadrons and clubs and to individual members.
4. Consolidate districts into about a half dozen regions with new systems and procedures that will integrate and synergize both national resources and local squadron leadership.
5. Some combination of the above.

***The ad hoc Reorganization Committee continues to work on this challenge.***

**DISTRICT  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

D/Lt/C Stuart Zwang, SN



Other than politics, people shooting each other, sex scandals, and living vicarious lives based on entertainment personalities, my wife and I have really developed a terrible case of cabin fever due to the Covid 19 Pandemic.

Sure, like most of you, we have experienced first-hand the impact of Covid 19 on our boating experience as well. It is harder to get parts, service and help. When we do get any of the above, we find the costs to have somehow become more than we remember them. Then the quality of the parts and services are not quite up to the level that our fading memories they were. For example the brand new battery that I purchased for my boat this last August tested as defective this January. (I take my batteries out of my boat at the end of the season, run them on trickle charge and test them every other month.)

Fuel costs have not decreased. Here is another shocker - like probably most of you, we bemoan the fact that the boating season in this area is just too darn short.

HOWEVER, we see, as one of the very few

bright spots of this ordeal as still being able to go out on the water (yes, in our boat) to just enjoy the environment of sun, water, waves, and solace with whoever we are lucky enough to have on our boat. That may be our family, guests or friends. Even if the weather or water does not cooperate, we still end up having a good time, and are still able to laugh about it.

That and enjoying the wonderful camaraderie of all of our boating friends, be it on the dock or our squadron or our district.

So with the winter solstice now behind us, we can look forward to commissioning our boat for the upcoming season.

Hang in there – it has to get better.

I hope to see you on the water.

Stay well

Respectfully submitted,

*D/Lt/C Stuart Zwang, SN*

District 20 Executive Officer

**2022 National annual meeting  
Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa  
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL  
Room Rate \$179/night**

Reservations are open now

Sign on to the member page of USPS.org. Click on the “National Meetings” menu on the left side of the page.

Look at the long list of activities they have planned to make your trip enjoyable.

Then make your hotel reservations, meal selections and activity reservations all in one place. Pay with a credit card and you are good to go.



# D/20 Nominating Committee Report

In accordance with the Bylaws of District 20, the following members are hereby nominated for election at the 2022 District 20 Spring Conference. All nominees have agreed to serve if elected. The District Educational Officer has been approved by National previously.

Office	Name	Squadron
District Commander	D/Lt/C Richard A. Davidson, SN	Skokie Valley
Executive Officer	D/Lt/C Stuart Zwang, SN	Skokie Valley
Educational Officer	D/Lt/C Scott Harmon, AP	Land of Lincoln
Administrative Officer	D/Lt/C Jesse Bowen, JN	Waukegan
Secretary	D/Lt/C Anita Donkers, AP	DuPage
Treasurer	D/Lt/C Joan Eichorst, SN	Chicago

## Nominating Committee

Chair	P/D/C Mary Merrell, SN	Fox Valley
Vice Chair	D/C Theresa Phillips, P	Mid Illini
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair	P/D/C Karen D'Amico, AP	Skokie Valley
Member (1 Year)	Lt Gerry Christman, AP	Mid Illini
Member (2 years)	P/C Nicholas G. Scheuer, AP	Rockford

## Rules Committee

Chair	Leland Holm, SN	Racine
Member	Nancy Sibrava-Koenen, SN	Chicago
Member	Kenneth Crutcher, AP	Land of Lincoln

## Audit Committee

Chair	D/Lt Ron E. Zingler, AP	Skokie Valley
Member (1 Year)	D/Lt David W. Sallmann, JN	Waukegan
Member (2 Years)	Cdr Janice M. North, AP	Chicago

Respectively submitted by the Nominating Committee:

George F. Prescott, SN (Chair)  
 Mary Merrell, SN  
 Karen D'Amico, AP  
 Gerry Christman, AP  
 Julie Perry, SN

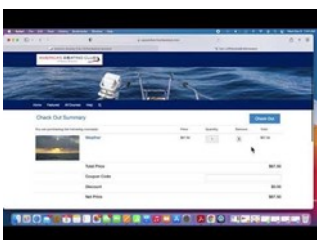
**DISTRICT  
EDUCATIONAL  
OFFICER**

D/Lt/C Scott Harmon, AP



Hi all,  
I was on the midnight watch at work for the month of December, so one of my projects to stay awake was to take the new Weather Class online from the America's Boating Club webpage. I was able to make it through the first seven chapters during the month December. So far I am very impressed with the online presentation and the eBook. This is a class that has not been taught at my squadron so I was excited to test out the new way to take a course.

I made a couple of videos about how to take a Power Squadron class on line. The first video shows you how to locate the available classes and seminars on the America's Boating Club webpage. Here is the link to it:



This second video shows how to access your class and download the eBook after you have purchased the class:



Hopefully the links will survive being emailed to you. If you can't get the links from the Trident just send me an email. [escottharmon@gmail.com](mailto:escottharmon@gmail.com)

You will hear some background radio traffic in the first video as I made it while on watch. If you listen closely around the 4:16 mark you will hear two towboats arranging a pass at the Power Squadrons. They are referring to the United States Power Squadrons light found on the left descending bank at mile 207.1 on the Upper Mississippi.

On to District news, I recently completed an Instructor Recertification Seminar for Greg Kelso, Mary Merrell, Chuck Burger and Bill Erdman. I will be scheduling another one soon so if you are interested please let me know. It takes 2 hours and we are doing them via zoom.

Here is an update of completed education classes in the District since June 30th.

- Waukegan: Piloting—6 Graduates, Marine Communications - 7 Graduates
- Mid Illini: Boat Handling 1 Graduate

**Upcoming classes:**

- Waukegan—Electrical Systems February, Boat Handling March, Piloting March
- Mid Illini—Advanced Piloting Started

**ABC classes:**

- Waukegan Completed 5 Graduates
- Land of Lincoln Classes Scheduled, March, April, May
- Rockford Class Scheduled for March
- Michigan City Class Scheduled for April
- Mid Illini Class Scheduled for May and February
- Illinois Valley Class Scheduled for January

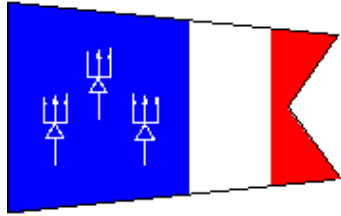
If I do not know about the ABC class scheduled by Fox Valley, it is because it is not listed in HQ800.

Thanks,

Respectfully submitted,

*D/Lt/C Scott Harmon, AP*

**District 20 Educational Officer**



## IMMEDIATE PAST DISTRICT COMMANDER

I/P/D/C Mary Merrell, SN

Hello fellow members. Well, it's approximately 138 to Memorial Day and less than 70 days until Spring. From the time I'm putting this together until it's in your hands, it's obviously that days are changing and getting closer.

The **National** Annual Meeting will take place in Ponte Vedra, Florida, Feb. 19 – 27, 2022. Check the National webpage and look up the terrific schedule.

Spring Conference is next big **District** Event that everyone should plan on attending if possible. Skokie Valley is hosting 25-26 March at the Holiday Inn in Elgin. They have put together a jammed packed weekend full of entertainment and information. One important thing to keep in mind – The Holiday Inn is holding the price per room to what it was 2 years ago. As we all know, if you grocery shop, prices have gone up. Skokie Valley has sharpened lots of pencils and done their best to keep the price reasonable. They've coordinated with our entertainment and twisted arms. So come and enjoy!!

- Friday night – Complimentary appetizers will be served as we're enjoying the "Sing along". This will be on first floor across from registration desk.
- Saturday morning enjoy our Friendship Room, cup of coffee/tea and morning snack which is also complimentary.

- Following coffee - Speaker Phil Aleo will present a program on [The Fox River: It's Influence on the History of the Fox Valley Region.](#)
- Lunch will be at noon which is traditional with the Conference following.
- Through this weekend don't forget the RAFFLE baskets – they are always great!
- Saturday evening, immediately following a delicious dinner and Change of Watch, we will enjoy the music of James Miuccio. Bring your dancing shoes, he is wonderful to listen and dance to. Full details can be found in this issue.

Memorial Day is welcomed by all because it's warmer and many of us will have wet bottoms on our boats/kayaks. National Safe Boating week is May 21 – 27, check with your marina to see if they would allow you to put our safe boating literature and/or posters. Perhaps present an ABC course to your fellow boaters.

Please stay healthy and Boat Safely while having fun!!

Respectfully submitted

*I/P/D/C Mary Merrell, SN*

**Immediate Past District Commander**



## DISTRICT SECRETARY

D/Lt/C Jesse W. Bowen, JN

Yes, we are still in the *opposite* of Never-Never Land, which, according to the American Heritage Dictionary, is “an imaginary and wonderful... fantasy land.” Fantasy land? Yes, but decidedly NOT wonderful, as we still deal with distancing, quarantines, testing, stressed health care facilities...etc. However, and to the great credit of the District 20 bridge and council, we have continued to conduct our activities and business with appropriate precautions and timing. Many of you may have missed some of our live or virtual events yet want to keep up with what has been happening. So below I will give directions to the documentation that may help you remain connected to our district.

With our move away from SailAngle as the primary repository of our district archives, we have been using a Google online drive area to store the various reports, minutes, and presentations for our recent meetings. That location is fairly easy to use, but does require a couple of steps. First, you need the link to the specific location where we have the various folders stored. It is:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/18uGoLlr5Pm3DhSiwLQv4EZ7P9zhqnvj8>

If that link is not live for your device, you can

copy and paste it into a browser. You may also want to make a bookmark in your browser for it. Materials from that site are organized into folders with descriptive names such as “2021 Fall Conference” and “D20 Minutes.” The documents can be downloaded to your own device.

If you need to upload (i.e., add materials to the site) you will need a Google sign-in ID. If you already use gmail for your mail service, you can use that ID. If not, you would just need to set up a free ID at [www.google.com](http://www.google.com). Thanks to P/D/C Mike Ludtke, SN, for setting up the Google drive location and folder structure and for populating it with the archive documents.

Documents recently added to the Google drive include D20 Council minutes, reports and minutes from the D20 Fall Education Conference, and the Chief Commander’s message delivered at the conference by V/C Craig Fraser, SN-IN.

If anyone has questions about access to the Google docs site, please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully Submitted:

*D/Lt/C Jesse W. Bowen, JN*

**District Secretary**

### Safe Boating Week—May 21-27, 2022

Safety on the water is everyone’s responsibility. Several Worldwide Events are planned by the National Safe Boating Council to build awareness of safe boating:

May 20—Wear your Life Jacket at Work Day. This annual event is a fun, educational way to heighten life jacket awareness and highlight the

various styles just prior to the official launch of the Safe Boating Campaign.

During Safe boating week plan your Ready, Set, Wear It program. This is a family-friendly event that teaches boaters about the importance of always wearing a life jacket, along with helpful care and maintenance information. With a bit of fun along the way! . .





**COME PARTY WITH FRIENDS  
AT GILLIGAN'S ISLAND  
D/20 Spring Conference**

**25-26 March 2022**

**Holiday Inn Chicago Northwest-Elgin  
495 Airport Rd., Elgin IL 60123  
Phone: (847) 488-9000**

**Room Rates:** Standard \$94/night. Jr. King or Queen Suite \$119/night.; Deluxe Queen \$119/night; Executive \$129/night.

**Make reservations by 11 March at local hotel (847) 488-9000.**

Be sure to mention **GROUP CODE: ABC** or Power Squadron America's Boating Club to get the special rates.

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

**LUNCH:** Price \$25 per person

Option 1\_\_\_\_: Country Chicken Salad with garden greens

Option 2\_\_\_\_: Turkey and Swiss Cheese on Pretzel Bun with French Fries

Option 3\_\_\_\_: Monte Crisco sandwich with French Fries

*All lunches come with Potato Soup, coffee, iced or hot tea*

**DINNER:** Price \$48.00 per person

Option 1\_\_\_\_: Chicken Picatta served with lemon tomato caper butter sauce

Option 2\_\_\_\_: Salmon Teriyaki

Option 3\_\_\_\_: London Broil—grilled and sliced marinated Tri-Tip beef with Bordelaise sauce

*All dinner meals come with Garden Salad, rolls, and dessert.*

*Served with Chef's choice of starch & vegetable;*

*coffee, iced or hot tea & soft drinks*

<u>No. Attending</u>		<u>Total</u>
_____	x \$25 Lunch = \$_____	
_____	x \$48 Dinner = \$_____	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$_____</b>

\*\*\*For special meal requests:

Contact P/D/C Mary Merrell, SN at 847-899-8293

**Make checks payable to:**

**SVPS**

Registration and check **should be sent by 18 March** to:

P/Lt/C Jim Soyka, SN

1757 E. Carib Ln, Mount Prospect, IL 60056

eMail: soyka@earthlink.net; Cell: 847-452-2164

Check if first time attending a District Conference

**Schedule of Events**

**Friday 25 March:**

1500-1800 Registration  
1930-2100 **Trivia, Costume Party and Sing-Along**  
2100 Hospitality Suites Open

**PARTY!  
PARTY!**



**Saturday 26 March:**

0700-1000 Friendship Room  
0830-0915 **Education Meeting**—Update by D/Lt/C Scott Harmon, AP  
0900-1100 Registration  
0915-1000 **Seminar:** On the Water Training and Education by P/D/C Mike Ludtke, SN  
1000-1200 **Presentation:** The Fox River: It's Influence on the History of the Fox Valley Region presented by Phil Aleo  
1200-1300 Luncheon  
1300-1330 Verification of Delegates  
1330-1600 Spring Conference Meeting  
1730-1830 Banquet cocktail hour—Conference Lobby  
1830-2030 Banquet, **Change of Watch** and Raffle  
2030-2230 **Music and Dancing** by Jack Miuccio  
2230 Hospitality Suites open

**Dress Code:**

Friday night: Costume or casual  
Saturday: Uniform G (short sleeved shirt, no tie) or suitable business casual attire  
Banquet USPS dress uniform or suitable attire





## **COME PARTY WITH FRIENDS AT GILLIGAN'S ISLAND**

### **D/20 Spring Conference Event Details**

**25-26 March 2022**

**Holiday Inn Chicago Northwest-Elgin  
495 Airport Rd., Elgin IL 60123  
Phone: (847) 488-9000**

#### **Friday, March 25, 2022**

- Conference Registration table will be open from 3:00 to 6:00. Pick-up your meal ticket envelope...and, while you are there buy a few raffle tickets for a chance to win one of the exciting baskets that will be on display. Then, get ready to PARTY! PARTY!
- At 7:30 we have the Crystal Banquet room reserved for our party. The Crystal Room is located off the lobby near the front entrance. There will be a cash bar and complimentary appetizers will be served.
- Dress up as your favorite Gilligan's Island character, or just have fun people watching.
- A short Trivia quiz will tax your memories of this popular TV Show
- Then, sit back and be entertained by Robyn Vitson who has been thrilling audiences with her beautiful vocals and stylistic piano playing throughout the US. She has performed for numerous corporate events, private parties, weddings and fundraisers. Robyn has performed for former Chicago Mayor Richard Daley and former President George W. Bush. The Chicago Tribune featured Robyn in an article on holiday music.
- Robyn will lead us in a sing-along of TV Show Themes, Broadway Musicals and Golden Oldies. To help us with the lyrics, the words will be shown on a screen.
- Finally, finish off the night by visiting suites hosted by a number of D/20 squadrons.

#### **Saturday March 26, 2022**

- The Friendship Room will be open starting at 7:00 am, serving complimentary coffee, tea and sweet rolls.
- There will be two D/20 seminars in the morning: First, Scott Harmon will update everyone on the status of the education program. Followed by Mike Ludtke talking about On-the-Water training and education.
- Then we are in for a treat when Phil Aleo, a local historian author and speaker will present his program about the Fox River region. Phil is an educational and entertaining speaker on the Fox River (Chain of Lakes), Meadowdale Raceway, Dundee Township and his latest project—the Durango and Silverton Railroads through the Rocky Mountains.
- After dinner and the installation of the new officers who will lead district 20 for the next year, we will be entertained by a very popular singer in the Chicagoland area. Jack Miuccio sings music from the Great American Songbook, Jazz, Sinatra, Bocelli, Ballads, Italian, Tom Jones, Englebert, and many others. He sings the National Anthem for the Chicago White Sox and other sports teams as well. He has performed at numerous different places including GR Field, the Hollywood Casino, Potawatomi Casino, Horseshoe Casino, Allstate Arena, HBO, ABC, NBC, WGN, Navy Pier, the Arcade Theater, the Rialto Theater and many other places. He has performed with such legends as Connie Francis, Keely Smith, Frankie Avalon, Bobby Rydell, Fabian, Dean Martin and many others. Everyone is encouraged to get up and dance to his music.
- And then finish off the night by visiting with your friends at the hospitality suites.

**Don't miss out on the fun!! This promises to be a conference and get-together you will remember for a long time.** If you have any questions or need help with anything see the Skokie Valley volunteers who are there to help you. They are in the Red and Blue Gilligan Island shirts.



# TRIDENT

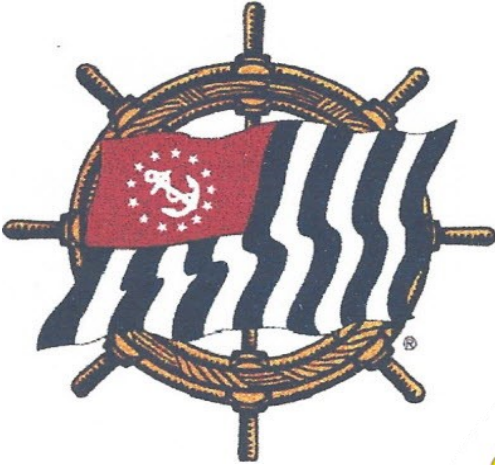
District 20, unit of United States Power Squadrons®

**FROM:**

P/D/C Pat Antoni, SN  
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**TO:**

## First Class Mail



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