



DISTRICT 20

Membership Newsletter—Volume 66 Issue 1
Winter-Spring 2023

TRIDENT

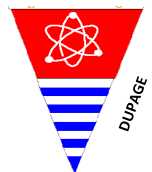
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**UNITED STATES
POWER SQUADRONS®**

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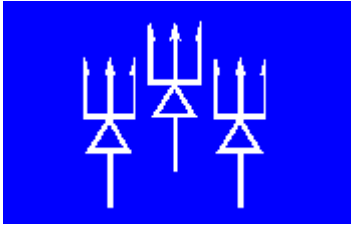
**DISTRICT 20
CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION OR CONTACT</u>
12 January	Bridge Meeting Zoom 1900	Call D/C Davidson for meeting ID
11-15 January	Chicago Boat, RV & Sail Show	McCormick Place—South Chicago IL
8 February	Bridge Meeting Zoom 1900	Call D/C Davidson for meeting ID
19-27 February	USPS Annual Meeting	Rosen Plaza Orlando, FL
24-25 March	D20 Spring Conference	Northwest Holiday Inn Elgin IL

D20 Council Meeting and Holiday Party

On December 5, 2022 D/C Davidson hosted several council members and committee members of D/20 at Maggiano’s Little Italy Restaurant for a short council meeting and to kick off the Holiday season. A good time was had by all.





**DISTRICT
COMMANDER**

D/C Richard A. Davidson, SN

What a year this has been.

The National bridge is trying to find ways to stem the decrease in members and created a committee to come up with answers. They did. One was to eliminate districts, another to migrate everything in the education system to an online option, and one that quickly was abandoned was to migrate districts into regions. We do have regions for the BOC program, so that idea has some reasons worth considering.

Alas, there were town hall meetings nationwide, surveys, feedback, and more meetings. When done, the districts remain, the online classes are almost all in place, and the bylaws have been rewritten to substitute “may” where “shall” once was the rule. Any district or squadron can exist with just a commander, education officer, and a secretary-treasurer.

Along with the turmoil, business as usual kept the National Conference last February in Florida and the Governing Board in North Carolina intact. We did our part in District 20 to sustain life as we remember it by having a great Spring Conference, Cruise & Rendezvous, and Fall Conference. Attendance was about 10% of the

district membership at those events but given our demographics of age and dearth of younger members, those numbers were not all bad.

So I give you my best holiday greetings by assuring you that we will remain an organization, lose a few more squadrons, consolidate what we have, and just hope that younger people who still are buying boats will seek our vessel safety checks, take our ABC3 classes, and maybe join a squadron for some of the camaraderie that we enjoy.

Our job is not to fight the trend but to adapt to it, provide education, provide safety, and provide the friendships of boaters who enjoy the programs that only our kind of organization can provide.

I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season and a good year 2023

Respectfully submitted,

D/C Richard A. Davidson, SN

District Commander

**Chicago Boat, RV & Sail Show
McCormick Place South, Chicago IL January 11-15, 2023**

Show Hours:

Wednesday 2:00 pm - 8:00 pm;; Thursday: 11:00 am-8:00 pm; Friday 11:00 am—9:00 pm;
Saturday: 10:00 am—8:00 pm; Sunday: 10:00 am—5:00 pm

Ticket Info:

Adult \$15.00 each
12 and younger: Free (when accompanied by a paid adult admission)

D/20 Nominating Committee Report

In accordance with the Bylaws of District 20, the following members are hereby nominated for election at the 2023 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	P/D/C Mike Ludtke, SN-ACN	Waukegan
Executive Officer	D/Lt/C Jesse Bowen, JN	Waukegan
Educational Officer	D/Lt/C Scott Harmon, AP	Land of Lincoln
Administrative Officer	P/C Greg Kelso, AP	Land of Lincoln
Secretary	D/Lt/C Anita Donkers, AP	DuPage
Treasurer	D/Lt/C Joan Eichorst, SN	DuPage

Nominating Committee

Chair	P/D/C Karen D'Amico, AP	Skokie Valley
Vice Chair	P/D/C Theresa Phillips, P	Mid Illini
2 nd Vice Chair	I/P/D/C Rich Davidson, SN	Skokie Valley
Member (1 Year)	P/C Gerry Christman, AP	Mid Illini
Member (2 years)	P/C Nicholas G. Scheuer, AP	Rockford

Rules Committee

Chair	P/C Nancy Sibrava-Koenen, SN	Chicago
Member	P/D/C Dennis McNamara, JN	Skokie Valley
Member	P/D/C Harvey Young, SN-IN	Illinois Valley

Audit Committee

Chair	Lt/C Ron E. Zingler, AP-IN	Skokie Valley
Member (1 Year)	L/C Dan Porter, S	Rockford
Member (2 Years)	Cdr Janice M. North, AP	Chicago

Respectively submitted by the Nominating Committee:

Mary Merrell, SN (Chair)
 Karen D'Amico, AP
 Terry Phillips, P
 Gerry Christman, AP
 Nicholas Scheuer, AP



**DISTRICT
EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

D/Lt/C Stuart Zwang, SN

HO HO HO

Yes, indeed, it is that time again.

All our boats are out of the water, and in some way shape or form, we have winterized them.

As part of the process, I took the batteries out and put them in the basement on a trickle charger. The Personal Flotation Devices, tools, clothes, line, and all the miscellany are now in a corner of my garage.

I replaced the cracked section of the dashboard with the ignition switch, and changed the oil

In the spring I plan to have the engine tuned up and replace the impeller. I think I will also rotate the prop out, and install one that has recently been rejuvenated. I'll take the old one to the shop and have that maintained.

Which reminds me - Why do you need three propellers when you operate on the Chain of Lakes? - One on the boat, one in the repair shop, and the spare ready for when (not if) you ding the one on the boat.

What happens if your boat quits while you are on the Chain? You get out and pull it to shore.

I am already thinking of how soon I can pull the boat out of storage and get the Vessel Safety Check from a Power Squadron Member.

Thinking back to last season, when I tried to get a VSC, I discovered that of all the entities that offered them, our members provided far and away the most comprehensive one with the best service.

And going a bit further back to the last twelve months, we must raise our glass in the memory and tribute to those members who have had their LAST HORIZON last year. I will personally miss their knowledge, insights, cheer and good will.

Then again, how fortunate we are to be with one another. Think for a minute about all the education, fellowship and social programs that we in District 20 have had.

We all have had a lot to be thankful for.

So, here is my wish for all of us: Have a Wonderful, Safe, Happy and Healthy Holiday Season, with all your family and friends.

And finally look forward to next year when we again hope to enjoy – (as we say in Skokie Valley) *SAFE BOATING WITH FRIENDS.*

Peace, Love and Happy Holidays

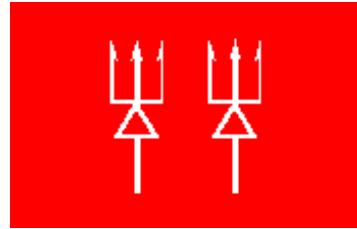
Respectfully submitted,

D/Lt/C Stuart Zwang, SN

Executive Officer

**DISTRICT
EDUCATIONAL
OFFICER**

D/Lt/C Scott Harmon, AP



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Here are the classes currently scheduled in D20 through HQ800.

ABC classes:

Recently Completed: Fox Valley 3 Graduates in September
 Mid Illini 5 Graduates in October

Upcoming ABC classes: Land of Lincoln 3 classes March 7, April 6, and May 1
 Mid Illini April 12, 2023
 Rockford March 5, 2023
 Skokie Valley April 22, 2023

Advanced classes:

Recently Completed: Mid Illini Weather 1 Graduate
 Waukegan Advanced Piloting 3 Graduates

Upcoming Advanced Classes:
 Land of Lincoln February 11, 2023 Piloting
 Mid Illini Sail January 16, 2023
 Waukegan Boat Handling March 6, 2023 and Piloting March 16, 2023

If you squadron is planning a class that I have not listed above, please let me know about your class and I will help spread the word.

I have been taking Junior Navigation remotely with the Rockford Squadron. I want to thank Bob Canfield and Nick Miller for the opportunity. It has been great to learn from an instructor outside of Land of Lincoln. It is also affording me the opportunity to complete a class that I would not be able to take in Springfield.

Here is a pic from 30° 18' 35"N 86° 6' 32"W

Respectfully submitted,

D/Lt/C Scott Harmon, AP

District 20 Educational Officer



American Symphony Port of Red Wing MN



**DISTRICT
SECRETARY**

D/Lt/C Anita M. Donkers, AP

As I write this article, I am looking at our backyard, which has all this white stuff covering the grass. It comes every year. And every year I say "I'm not ready". But, with the snow comes the Holidays, and a magical time of year. By the time you read this, it will be a New Year, and time to look forward to the USPS Annual Meeting, boat shows, District 20 Spring Conference, Change of Watches, prepping our boats for summer, green grass and spring flowers.

As your Squadron creates a 2023 calendar, please remember to share your activities with the District. We can add Squadron activities, classes (both public and member), get-togethers to the District calendar on the website. Several of the Squadrons already share their classes. With Zoom, it is really easy for someone in Racine to take a class in Springfield.

The Conferences and Cruise & Rendezvous, are held to fulfill our Bylaw obligations, but they are also a time for camaraderie between Squadrons. Why not carry the camaraderie further and invite all Squadrons to your activities, whether it is a dinner meeting, or an evening cruise. Your turn-out will be better, and who knows what ideas might be shared, and new friends made. Many of you have taken classes through another Squadron, just carry the idea further and take an evening cruise with another Squadron.

Also on this department's agenda for early in the year are Squadron Historian Reports. P/D/C Mike Ludtke, SN is our District Historian, and will be gathering information for the Squadrons. Please let me know if you cannot find the Historian form and I'll get you a copy.

Hope you have a safe, healthy and happy 2023. And I hope our paths cross on and off the waterways.

Respectfully Submitted:

D/Lt/C Anita M. Donkers, AP

District Secretary

Mark your calendar:

D/20 Spring Conference, Council Meeting and Change of Watch

This event will be held on March 24-25 at the Northwest Holiday Inn, Elgin IL.

The district will be hosting this conference and details will be forwarded as soon as they are finalized. Look for the Trident Extra for further information. Hope you will make plans to attend.

D/20 FALL CONFERENCE

Hosted by Mid Illini Sail and Power Squadron

October 28-29, 2022 Holiday Inn, Normal IL

Friday night started with a fun Margaritaville Party. While all the games were being played, Mid Illini squadron ran a video of their BVI trips along with a soundtrack of Jimmy Buffet songs. This set the mood for everyone to relax and participate in all the activities. They had a giant Jenga game, a bag contest and Lawn Chair volleyball that got everyone laughing and talking. Special thanks go to the Mid Illini conference committee for putting together this great conference.



Saturday started with the Friendship room for a quick continental breakfast followed by an interesting presentation by Cody Gray. Cody is the Volunteer Services Coordinator for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Safety and Education.

After a fabulous lunch, Cdr Davidson called the conference meeting to order and the business meeting was conducted. Education Achievement and the Prince Henry awards were presented to Waukegan Sail and Power Squadron. Congratulations!!



USPS/AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

Annual Meeting

February 19-27, 2023

Rosen Plaza Orlando

This is the main meeting Hotel

9700 International Drive

Orlando FL 32819

Telephone: 407-996-9700

Rate: \$169.00



The meeting theme of this year's conference is "USPS Karnival Kruise" since the event coincides with Mardi Gras. The hotel will become your ship, your room a "stateroom" and the tours are "shore excursions". There will also be specially prepared meals to help celebrate the theme. In addition to the business affairs conducted, there are fun events for the entire family..

For those who arrive early you might consider visiting the Kennedy Space Center, or taking advantage of Sea World Orlando discount tickets that will be available on Monday. Tuesday offers the Icon Park Excursion, Charcuterie Board Demo, Karnival Headband making in the hotel and via motor coach, Al Capone's Dinner Theater. Wednesday features a daytime Miniature Golf Tournament at Pirates Cove, and an evening Mardi Gras Bingo party. Thursday offers a Day in Historic Winter Park. Friday features a Jungle Adventure with a Fort Christmas visit.

There is plenty to do and see, even if you are not involved with business meetings and just want a getaway with the kids and family, and the discounts will save you money.

For the first time at an Annual Meeting all members and guests will be able to sign up for Thursday and Friday lunch and also Friday and Saturday morning breakfasts so you can skip the long restaurant line.

Thursday also will feature the Keynote Speaker Breakfast with Tim Barrett of Sanibel Fire and Rescue who will be discussing Hurricane Ian and emergency preparedness activities. Thursday evening features the Awards Night Banquet, where members are recognized for their individual, district, and squadron accomplishments.

The Friday Hospitality night feature is always a big hit, and to wrap it all up on Saturday night the Roaring 20's theme gala ball.

So, if you are tired of the inclement weather, or just want to get away for a bit, come join your fellow members at the grand carnival. Whether it is renewing old friendships or making new ones there will be something for everyone in Orlando, and you may just come away with a new appreciation of all the things the United States Power Squadrons | Americas Boating Club has to offer its members.

TRIDENT

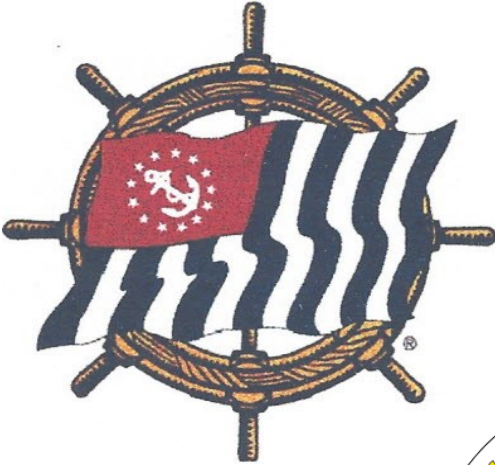
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