

UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®

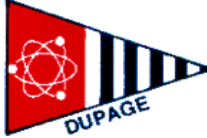
Sail and Power Boating

TRIDENT

SUMMER - FALL Volume 58 Issue 2 Published Twice Yearly

"Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the Friends"

District 20



Hosted by Mid Illini Sail & Power Squadron
<https://www.facebook.com/midilliniusps>



Internet Addresses
USPS - <http://www.usps.org>
D/20 - <http://www.uspsd20.org>

**UNITED STATES
POWER SQUADRONS®**

A Publication of District 20
published twice yearly.

Opinions expressed are those of the writers and
not necessarily those of D/20 and USPS

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**TRIDENT
DEADLINE
1 DECEMBER
2015**

The question was asked at the Squadron Development Workshop in February "What is the SERAT program national has been talking about?" SERAT stands for **Squadron Emergency Response Assistance Team**. It was started in 2005 by the Sanibel Captiva Squadron and the Sanibel Fire/Rescue District. Since its beginning the dedicated members of the team have developed a highly organized response unit that incorporates many of the programs within USPS bringing the original rescue of vessels in distress into the 21st Century. SERAT is a sanctioned arm of a local power squadron whose mission is to render volunteer assistance to local fire departments, law enforcement and other agencies. The duties are to provide a team of qualified and experienced boaters with knowledge of local waters who are willing to donate time and effort to assist in the event of an emergency. These may include water rescue, water search and rescue, water related patrols and help in securing an area.

The benefits of a squadron having a SERAT program are many. While the squadron may be known for its boating education and safety programs, they may not be recognized as a community service group. If you are interested in starting a SERAT program in your squadron, contact R/C Jim Strothers, SN at SERAT@SanibelCaptiveSPS.org for more details.

Hopefully, everyone has renewed their membership. Several squadrons schedule their member's annual dues for payment in May. If you renewed...thank you. If you did not renew, you may want to reconsider your decision. Our three sided mission is as important today as it was in 1914. We provide community service with vessel safety checks, community outreach and teaching ABC3 classes. We have the opportunity to improve our boating education with access to eleven major courses, 24 seminars, on-the-water training and webinars. The member benefit committee continually adds new benefits to the list. All you have to do is take advantage of 1 or 2 and it will cover your annual dues. But, the biggest value to me is fellowship. A prime example of this is the Cruise and Rendezvous hosted by Kankakee Valley Sail & Power Squadron 17-18 July. This event provides you a chance to mingle with fellow boaters and learn about their experiences on the water. As boaters, we are always willing to share our love for boating. KVSPS has developed a great program for you and it promises to be a fun week-end. Don't miss it.

In October, we will try the one day conference again. Mid Illini is hosting the Fall Conference in Bloomington on 17 October. You can come in on Friday evening or arrive early on Saturday morning. The Saturday night banquet will be eliminated so you can plan your trip home following the conference, thus saving you banquet and hotel costs. This plan was tried for the first time last year and we received high praises for it. Be sure to let us know if you feel we should continue with this format or return to the 2-day conference.

Your district bridge officers are here to assist you. Our responsibility is to take the lead in bringing your concerns to "national". Likewise, we take the time to fully understand the tools available for your squadron and make sure you're made aware of them. If you have a question or concern, please let us know and we will try to help you. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming district events.

**DISTRICT
EXECUTIVE
OFFICER**

D/Lt/C Harvey R. Young, SN-IN



The Executive Department committees are in place for 2015-2016. My thanks to those who have stayed on in their respective positions and thank you also to those who stepped up to fill vacancies in order to continue the work of the committees.

Gregory C. Kelso, AP, has agreed to continue as the IL DNR representative.

Persons at least 12 years old but less than 18 years old may operate a motorized vessel, including a personal watercraft, only if they complete a boating safety course and possess a boating safety education card accepted by the Department of Natural Resources. If they do not possess the card they must be accompanied by and under the direct control of a parent, a guardian, or a person at least 18 years old designated by the parent or guardian. Vessel operators who are required to have a Boater Education Card must carry the card on board the vessel and have it available for inspection by an enforcement officer.

Failure to carry your Boater Education Card when one is required can result in a significant fine.

Art Leefers, AP has agreed to chair the Co-op Charting committee. Art has a lot of knowledge about electronic charting, is active boating in many parts of our state and country and is working with Roy Boylan to get acclimated to the latest in electronic co-op charting. NOAA will no longer print paper charts, but they will stay available as Print on Demand (POD) from their website. The POD became popular overnight. I have heard of taking files to plot printers or wide format printers for larger (paper) charts verses having multi fly 8.5 X 11 or 8.5 X 14 size. I contacted PIP Printers about this. PIP can print color to 54" wide and B&W to 48" wide. They will print from PDF files and adjust the printing area to your specs up to the max width. The paper comes off rolls so length can be much longer than you may want to handle. I would like to hear of someone's experience with this printing option.

Additional Chairs of Executive Dept. committees are listed below. Please feel free to contact these volunteer members whenever information is needed.

P/C Jim Geske, AP, has agreed to accept the Boat Show Chairmanship.

Quentin H. Rench, SN, has agreed to continue as the Environmental and Waterways Chairman.

P/C Wayne F. Mueller, SN, continues as the Fox Waterways Liaison, with Cdr Gary Braker, AP as co-chairman.

D/Lt Floyd Miras, SN, will continue as Chairman of Homeland Security Committee.

P/D/C Dennis R. McNamara, JN, will continue to keep an eye on the Illinois Legislature and report their activities as they relate to boaters.

Constance L. Runge, SN, will continue as the Vessel Safety Check Officer. D/20 has 38 Mustang Inflatable Life Jackets and 16 VSCs had been recorded as of 21 May 2015.

DISTRICT EDUCATIONAL OFFICER

Stf/C Robert E. Canfield, JN

Chapman Award

The time is now! Time to prepare your Chapman Award nomination for your squadron. We have some of the best instructors in USPS and the area. They spend countless hours teaching and making education interesting and meaningful. You really need to thank them, and, there is no better way to thank them than to nominate them for the Chapman Award.

I must have the applications in my hand BY 1 AUGUST 2015, because I need to select judges for the applications and submit the results to the NEO BY 1 SEPTEMBER 2015. If you can, get them to me by the Cruise and Rendezvous in July.

Go to the following link at the USPS website for the instructions and guidelines to get your nomination in on time; this is very important!! <http://www.usps.org/eddept/id/awards.htm>. And to download the appropriate application forms go to <http://www.usps.org/eddept/id/chapman/chapawrdfrm.pdf>. Be sure to read the rules!

BOC

As you plan your classes and seminars, keep the requirements for Boat Operator Certification (BOC) in mind. BOC has three types of requirements. They are:

- a. Courses – USPS prescribed courses for each level;
- b. Seminars – USPS seminars (and in some cases non-USPS seminars) prescribed for each level; and
- c. Skill Demonstrations – A signed-off BOC Passport provides objective evidence that the individual has completed the prescribed on-land or on-the-water skills.

Although it takes a qualified Certifier to do the Skill Demonstration, your squadron can offer the Courses and Seminars. As you are planning your educational curriculum in the coming months take a look at the requirements. They are found in the BOC manual on the National web site. Just do a search for “BOC” and you will find them.

ABC3 On The Water Training

Summer is a wonderful time to contact your ABC and seminar students and see if they would be interested in an additional “On the Water” training session. Most of us give the ABC course in the spring and the weather is not always conducive for going out on the water. It is a little hard in some areas. However, creating a summer class that brings back the students for on the water training would be a great recruiting tool. And the squadron can have some fun planning other events in conjunction with the training. Please note that there is strict recording of the training required for USPS insurance purposes. It needs to be documented in your minutes before you do the training. And, be absolutely sure you are using the very latest information. The Teaching Aid Guide is very specific and needs to be followed. The ABC3 On-The-Water Teaching Aid Guide is available for downloading from national. Go to the ABC3 page and then go to the Download section to find it.

ABC Course

The National Education Committee is tentatively coming out with a new ABC course for 2015. Along with this new course will be a requirement by NASBLA to use teaching aids, (i.e. powerpoint), and test questions approved by your state Boating Law Administrator. Stay tuned. But, do not hang on to your old courses. Remember there is a 60 day return policy on course work. Use it.

USPS University

Finally, we can teach USPS courses to non-members. But they first must be enrolled in the USPS University so that they receive an ID number that is required to order exams. The procedures are on the National Website. If you have any questions about this or other issues, please give me a call, (815) 968-7200.

**DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATIVE
OFFICER**

D/Lt/C Michael Ludke, SN-CN



We have some great events coming up in District 20. In July, Kankakee Valley Squadron will host the Cruise & Rendezvous. I understand on Saturday they have a water ski demonstration and river boat tours planned. This sounds like a good time. If you haven't made your reservations please do so soon, it will be here before you know it. Coming up in October will be the Fall Conference hosted by Mid-Illini. Details and reservation forms are included in this issue of the Trident.

As I speak with the squadrons around our district, more and more I'm hearing about squadrons in trouble, declining membership, unable to fill key positions, the list goes on and on. I realize these are difficult times. Many yacht clubs and other organizations face similar situations. How can we change course and get back on track?

As you may know, I'm a sailboat racer. When we struggle on the race course, we look to the successful boats and try to do what they are doing. Is their main or jib trimmed different? Maybe their crew weight is distributed differently. They are obviously doing something right and we are not.

With the Power Squadron, we have similar tools available. We can see what successful squadrons are doing. I urge you to review the 2014 MIRA (Membership Involvement and Retention Award) winners at http://www.usps.org/national/membership/pdf_files/2014_MIRA_Winners_Flyer.pdf. These three squadrons, Akron, Great Blue Hill and Sarasota, grew their membership 14%. It's not easy to make changes or implement new ideas, but if you try just one of their examples maybe you'll see your squadron membership grow too.

One of the programs I found helpful when I was Commander of our squadron was the Do It Right Award. It's a list of characteristics a successful squadron might have. Your squadron probably can't cover all the suggestions, but if you look at the list online it's a good self-evaluation that might get you started thinking about ways of improving your membership and membership retention.

One thing a lot of these ideas have in common is getting members involved, and getting **new** members involved early. I hope your squadron will try some different ideas and share your successes and failures with other squadrons; we can all learn from each other.

As always, as your DAO, I'm here to help your squadron in any way I can, so please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions, suggestions, or concerns.



Mark your Calendar
District 20
Operations Training
14 February 2016

Key Note Speaker and Workshops
for the benefit of all
D/20 Members and Officers

DISTRICT SECRETARY

D/Lt/C Anita Donkers, AP



“Nuffernau” has a new home this summer. Dave and I have moved up-river and are excited about the activities scheduled at this marina. After two summers of nursing Dave’s twice broken leg, we are looking forward to some serious river time this year.

As Boating Safety Week approached, Dave and I were deciding how we would celebrate “Ready Set Wear It” on Saturday, 16 May. While I was putting together the **Trident Tidbits** we started discussing joining Mid-Illini for their festivities. We enjoyed our drive to Lake Clinton and the warm welcome from Mid-Illini. A little rain did not stop the barbecuing or donning PFDs for photos. I understand that after we left, the sun came out and the sailboats went out on the lake. Thank you to Mid-Illini for being gracious hosts.

Trident Tidbits is published monthly via SailAngle. This year I am asking Commanders to send me information on Squadrons activities...classes, speakers, on-the-water activities, etc. Your Squadron may have a speaker talking about something that is extremely interesting or important to another District 20 member; you may be having a cruise to somewhere another District 20 member has always wanted to go. And it’s a great way to meet and socialize with other District 20 members in addition to weekend conferences.

The District Roster has been published and can be found on SailAngle. To find the Roster, please go to www.usps.org and log onto SailAngle. Once you are logged on, go to the “Groups” tab and select “My Groups”, then “District 20”. On the left side you will see a list (“Home”, “Messages”, etc.). Choose “File Cabinet”; then download the District 20 2015-2016 Roster. If you can’t find the roster or have problems downloading it, please contact me (630/554-1904; a-donkers@comcast.net) and we’ll figure it out together. If you see any errors in the Roster, please let me know. Errata will be published in a couple of months.

If you are looking for additional photos for your newsletter, please check SailAngle. These photos are available for you to use, and you can also share your photos with the District.

“The cure for anything is salt water: sweat, tears or the sea” (Isak Dinesen). May all of us have a summer full of salt water...sweat from hard work sailing...tears from the joy of being on a boat...sea or river or lake.



NEW LIFE MEMBERS

It is a pleasure to see friends and fellow members reach milestones and that’s exactly what Life Membership is. Congratulations to:

Bridget K. Doerner, N
Skokie
John E. Gaggini, AP
Chicago
Jerzy Krzaczynski, SN
Waukegan
Caryl A. Lemke, P
Skokie
William A. Randolph, SN
Evanston North Shore

Congratulations to the following squadrons for achieving

Distinction in USPS Journalism

Chain-O-Lakes - The Link
DuPage - DuPage Pilot
Fox Valley - *Tales of the Fox*
Kankakee - *Channel Markers*
Land of Lincoln - *Springlines*
Mid Illini - *Headlines*
Racine - *Waterlog*
Skokie Valley - *Running Lights*
Waukegan - *Waukeelog*

Website Award for Excellence Certificates

were presented to
Chain-O-Lakes
Chicago
Evanston NorthShore
Fox Valley
Illinois Valley
Land of Lincoln
Racine
Skokie Valley
Waukegan
District Twenty

**DISTRICT
TREASURER**

D/Lt/C Daid Sallman, JN



Let me take this opportunity to introduce myself to those members whom I've not had the pleasure of meeting. I have been a member of the Waukegan Sail and Power Squadron since 1981. I was a Lake Michigan power boater for more than thirty years but five years ago, at the urging of my son, I undertook a new challenge. I switched to sailing. As your new treasurer I am looking forward to another new challenge. If you have any questions regarding treasurer's duties, please email me or call me. I may not know the answer to your question, but I will find the answer.

This is the perfect occasion to remind all Squadrons that they must file an IRS Form 990N annually. This electronically filed document called an "e-postcard" is required of all tax-exempt organizations having gross receipts less than \$50,000. The form must be filed within five months and fifteen days of the end of the Squadron fiscal year. Obtain specific instructions regarding this filing at <http://epostcard.form990.org>.

After filing your 990N, you need to submit a USPS TR-1, along with a copy of your e-postcard acceptance from the IRS, to the National and District Treasurers. The TR-1 should be submitted no later than 1 August.

Each Squadron is also required to file an Annual Report with the state in which the Squadron was incorporated. Failure to file either the 990N or the Annual Report can result in severe penalties. If you have questions about these forms or any other treasurer duties don't hesitate to contact me.



Ready, Set, Wear it
New Life Jacket World Record Set

10,917 boaters around the globe shattered records for the most life jackets worn on the same day during the sixth annual Ready, Set, Wear It! Life Jacket World Record Day!

The National Safe Boating Council and Canadian Safe Boating Council partnered to support the event, part of the yearlong Wear It! campaign to promote boating safety and voluntary wear of life jackets. More than 30,000 people have participated in the event since 2010!

A big "thank you" to the many boating safety educators and volunteer organizations that hosted 257 events on May 16. Also, thanks to marine retail sponsors Cabela's and West Marine for their hard work to make this annual event fun and educational about boating safety and the importance of life jacket wear.

And, special recognition to Leland Ltd., Halkey-Roberts and iSi Components for providing cartridges and additional products to allow participants the opportunity to inflate and practice re-arming inflatable life jackets.

Mark your calendars for next year's National Safe Boating Week events!

- Wear Your Life Jacket to Work Day: May 20, 2016
- 7th Annual 'Ready, Set Wear It!' Life Jacket World Record Day: May 21, 2016
- National Safe Boating Week: May 21-27, 2016

Congratulations to D/20!!!

We helped set the new World's Record on 16 Jun 2015! 2015: 10,917 participants and in 2014: 6,973 participants. There were 11 squadrons in D/20 that participated and reported in 135 signatures for the world record event; they squadrons are; Chicago, Rockford, Racine, Kankakee Valley, Mid Illini, Illinois Valley, Fox Valley, DuPage, Land of Lincoln, Skokie Valley and Waukegan. A total of 135 signatures were sent to me and recorded for the record set.

P/D/C John R. Rowland, SN-IN

D/20 ABC Coordinator
P/Rt/C James J. Runge, SN



What Happens to On-Line ABC3 Students

For those purchasing ABC via the internet, students sign-up on the America's Boating Course website. USPS Headquarters, Raleigh, NC accepts the order, validates the credit card, and ships the student kit via First Class mail. A unique personal identification number (PIN) is e-mailed to the student. Using the PIN, they may sign on to the online Courseware and start taking the course immediately, even before receiving the student kit in the mail.

A system has been put in place which will notify USPS districts each time there is a new ABC internet student. To ensure that the internet student is put in touch with the "right squadron" there are ABC Coordinators in each district who will receive the notification and assign the new student to one of the squadrons within their district. The squadron will then contact the student, introduce themselves and their squadron, offer to provide state specific information and (when the time is right) administer an exam.

At the time of sale, the USPS Membership Committee, using the ZIP code of the student, will notify the squadron "public contact" officers within 100 miles that there is a potential member seeking ABC3 education. The student will be registered in the Cyber Squadron and issued a lower case "e" member number. The district coordinators each receive an e-mail message whenever a new ABC student is registered in their area. The ABC server is zip code based and is automated. That is, the first 3-digits of the student's zip code are used to determine which district should receive the new student alert message. The new student alert message is sent automatically by the ABC Server; USPS personnel are not involved with the day-to-day operation of this part of the system.

The first 3-digits of the student's zip code are the primary control directing the new student alert message to the district coordinators. When the ABC system was first created, a master table was established identifying the first 3-digits of all the zip codes within a district. An exception process was also established for border zip code regions so that a complete 5-digit zip code could be uniquely assigned to a specific district. The ABC Server network routes messages to a district coordinator based upon the zip code of a student or someone making an inquiry about America's Boating Course. It is up to the district coordinator to decide which squadron within the district should ultimately handle that message. Once that determination has been made, the district coordinator simply forwards the message to the squadron contact.







**District 20
Fall Conference
Schedule of Events**

**3202 East Empire St
Bloomington, IL 61704
309-662-4700**

**Standard Single/double \$113.00
Hospitality Suite* \$149.00**

*limited number of large suites available

**DISTRICT 20 FALL CONFERENCE
16 - 17 OCTOBER 2015
LUNCH RESERVATIONS**

Rank	Name	Grade	Squadron
1	_____	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____
Address _____			
City _____		State _____	Zip _____
Phone number _____			
Email Address _____			

Luncheon Selections \$25.00 each

Grilled Chicken with Roasted Garlic & Mushroom Sauce _____

Baked Salmon with a Sweet Honey Glaze _____

Lunches include Salad, Choice of Potato & Chef's choice of fresh Vegetable,
Dinner Rolls and Coffee, Tea with Mini Dessert Flight

Total _____ \$_____

If you have special dietary needs or food allergies, please contact

P/C Judy Magnuson, AP judy.magnuson@frontier.com

Home:309-726-1517

**PLEASE RESERVE BY 10 OCTOBER
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO
Mid Illini Sail & Power Squadron**

**SEND RESERVATIONS TO;
Linda Christman, AP
2205 Berrywood Ln
Bloomington, IL 61704
H:309-662-5601 C:309-838-4899**

Check here if this is your first conference

Friday 16 October

1600-1900 Registration
1800-2000 Squadron Commander's Meeting
1900-2200 "Discover the Hidden Treasure" Games

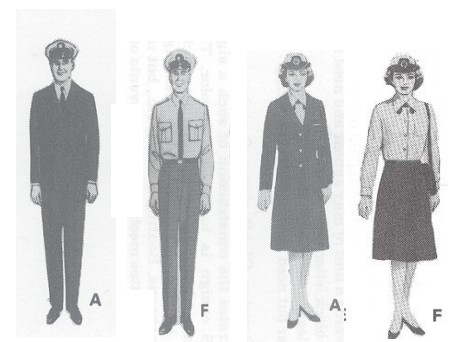
Do not open Hospitality Rooms before 2200

Saturday 17 October

0730-0930 Registration
0730-0930 Friendship Room
0800-0900 Education Dept. Meeting
0900-1200 Teaching Aids Exhibit
0930-1100 Council Meeting
1100-1200 Guest Speaker
1200-1330 Lunch
1300-1330 Verification of Delegates
1330-1600 Fall Conference Educational Awards
1630-1830 End of Conference First Timer's Reception
Schedule is subject to change

Dress Code:

Friday Night: Dress like a pirate or USPS Casual
Saturday (Day): Uniform F - White long sleeve shirt, black pants & tie or appropriate attire



District 20 FALL CONFERENCE

Discover Your Treasure

**16-17 October 2015
Bloomington, Illinois
Hosted by
Mid Illini Sail and Power Squadron**

"In our lifetimes, we can only know a small portion of what exists. The world is endless and its treasures are inexhaustible." ~ Barry Webster

The Mid Illini Sail and Power Squadron invites you to join us at the D/20 Fall Conference. Come and help us renew old friendships, celebrate District achievements, and discover the treasures of Central Illinois.

Following the Commanders meeting on Friday evening, don your best pirate-inspired costume (optional) for socializing with "Discover the Hidden Treasure" team games, light refreshments, and a cash bar at the Holiday Inn and Suites. Then on Saturday morning, stop by the Friendship Room for a complimentary continental breakfast before the start of Education and Council meetings and the rest of the Conference. Finally, plan to attend Saturday's plated luncheon and our End-of-the-Conference Reception for more food and fellowship along with the opportunity for first-time attendees to meet the District's officers, those dedicated folks who make all of this possible. For those who wish to stay and dine in the area, there are lots of options in the Bloomington-Normal area.

"Here are the real jewels of mankind: Breathing, smiling, walking, watching the sunrise, listening to the birds, smelling the forests . . . Know thy true treasures!" ~ Mehmet Murat ildan

A limited number of large suites are available at the hotel should any squadron wish to secure one. Also, if you have special dietary needs for Saturday's luncheon, please contact P/C Judy Magnuson, AP, at judy.magnuson@frontier.com or 309.726.1517.

We treasure this special time together and look forward to seeing you in October!

"We are all wealth. We are all treasure. We are the abundance of all things. Spend yourself completely." ~ Bryant McGill

UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®

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Mt Prospect, Illinois 60056

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