



“America’s Boating Club®” United States Power Squadrons ABC - San Diego Sail & Power Squadrons

The Ships’ Mail

The Ship’s Mail is a quarterly publication of the San Diego Sail & Power Squadron, Inc., a unit of the United States Power Squadrons, America’s Boating Club®

Vol. 75, No. 1, Spring Issue 2023



Commander’s Column

Debra Oberg, JN

Commander, ABC San Diego

Ahoy Mates!!

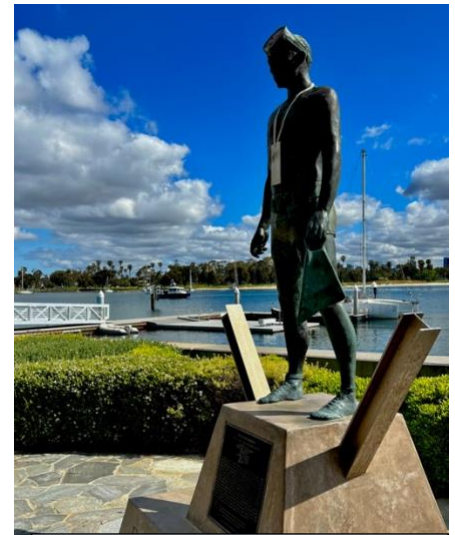
Spring has sprung and summer is close on her heels! After this cool, wet winter, I am looking forward to some warm sunshine!!

Our year has been pretty busy so far and we have more exciting events planned for the rest of the year. Our District 28 meeting on March 25 was well attended and hosted by San Diego. It was attended by someone from every squadron, something that you don't see that every time! Our Chief Commander, **Craig Fraiser, SN-CN** and his lovely wife, **Liana Mihalca, SN-CN**, were in attendance and offered insights into what is happening at National. A few of our members attended the National Meeting in Orlando, FL in February, including **D/C Allan Bombard, SN-CN** and **P/R/C Shawn Goit, JN-ON**, and brought back all the proposals that were voted on at the national meeting, and which were approved. (*Ed. these are summarized in the D/C's column, later in the newsletter.*) Things are a changing all over!

Our Education Department has been very busy so far in 2023 with 3 courses completed so far and about 3-4 more scheduled for the balance of 2023. The public is hungry for education, as all of our classes have been well attended, almost to pre-pandemic levels. Great job to SEO **P/C Doug Bass, SN-IN** and his Ed team!

Our activities calendar is also filling up nicely. Join us for the next GMM on May 19 at **Mimi's Cafe** in Mission Valley. GMM's are always a fun time. Following the GMM is a special Vessel Safety Check day at **Southwestern Yacht Club** on June 10. Come and get your boat checked out for 2023, get a new decal and a cookie!!!

Closely following our VSC day is the long anticipated 2 week cruise to Alaska. How exciting!!!! I wish I was able to go as I hear they are a lot of fun. We then round out the summer with picnics. July 9 is the San Diego



“First to Shore”

A tribute to UDTs (later SEALs) on Coronado Island, taken during a recent Vessel Safety Check event.



picnic at **De Anza Cove**, July 15 is the District Picnic at **Oceanside Harbor** and finally August 12 is the Cruiser Picnic at Southwestern Yacht Club. We finish the year with a potluck GMM in September, our regular GMM in November and the Parade of Lights in December!! Don't forget that our friends to the north in the San Luis Rey squadron (ABC Oceanside) and Balboa (ABC Newport Beach) are also very active and their events are also open to San Diego SPS Members. If you don't like one of our events, check out one of theirs!

The Sail Fleet team continues to race every third Saturday of the month. Contact the race team if you are interested in joining them. They often need people to help crew the boat.

As a final plug, we are always looking for new members to join our squadron. So, bring a friend to one of our events! We also need members to join our Board and fill Committee positions. Maybe be a Vessel Examiner, guest speaker at a GMM or a guest instructor?? Our current members are aging and our Club will not survive without some new talent. If you are interested, let us know and we can find something to fit your needs. We have made great strides these last few years, let's keep it going!

Remember, safety on the water is always NUMBER ONE!
Fair winds and smooth sailing.

Deb

Respectfully submitted,
Debra Oberg, JN



Administrative Officer

Lt/C Carl Schwartz, P

Hello Fellow Boaters,

It is National Safe Boating Week! May 20th to May 26th. Let's brush up on our Boating skills. Take one of our very informative and educational classes from America's Boating Club. Classes are live and in-person or online through our national headquarters.

Remember "The Boating Safety Seven" from the National Safe Boating Council:

- Wear your life jacket
- Take a boating safety class
- Carry all required safety gear
- Use your engine cut-off switch
- File a float plan
- Be aware of weather and water conditions
- Boat sober, and be considerate of others

This is a wonderful year with wonderful weather and lots of activities. Our GMM is coming up this Friday, May 19th at Mimi's Café in Mission Valley. It is definitely a fun place to eat. Our big picnic and GMM will be held July 9th. We always meet at De Anza Cove on Mission Bay. Parking is great and never a crowd. This is great way to spend some time with your fellow members. The 2023 Parade of Lights barbeque is scheduled for December 10th. We will meet again at Shelter Island. Watch for more details.

OTW/BoC Training

During the District 28 CoW weekend, P/D/C Shawn Goit, JN-ON offered - CN training aboard "Passing Wind" in Oceanside, CA. Students included (from L) Craig Fraser, SN-CN, Liana Mihalca, SN-CN, Allan Bombard, SN-CN, and Darryel Simmons, AP.



As noted above, our next GMM will be Friday May 19. We are looking forward to some great food and another Raffle. Let's see everyone there!



America's Boating Club - San Diego
Cordially invites you to
The General Membership Meeting
Friday, May 19, 2023
6-8 pm
Mimi's Cafe

5180 Mission Center Road. San Diego, CA 92108

All members of the San Diego Sail & Power Squadron and their guests are invited to attend the General Membership Meeting, with no-host cocktails at 6 pm.
The business meeting will begin at 6:30 pm.

Join the other boating members for an evening together. Come and see what is happening with the San Diego Club! Meal orders will be placed from their menu. Separate checks for each party. Alcoholic beverages available for purchase as well. You can also just join us for an evening! Come early to socialize. Please let us know you are coming so we have enough seats available.

Invite a friend or someone that is interested
in our mission and what we do.

Please RSVP your attendance by **May 15, 2023**
to Carl Schwartz @ carls1199@yahoo.com or call 619 528-9111.



FIRST MATE Checklist



PRESENTED BY:



Sea Tow Foundation
for Boating Safety and Education

- DOES EVERYONE ON BOARD HAVE A LIFE JACKET THAT FITS AND HAS PUT IT ON?**
If not, borrow one from the Sea Tow Foundation! Find the closest Life Jacket Loaner Station near you at www.boatingsafety.com/map.
- WHERE ARE THE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS, EMERGENCY FLARES AND FIRST AID KIT ON THE BOAT?**
Make sure everyone else knows, too!
- DOUBLE CHECK THAT YOUR NAVIGATION LIGHTS AND HORN WORK BEFORE LEAVING THE DOCK.**
- CHECK THE BILGE.**
Make sure it isn't filled with water before the boat is underway.
- CHECK THE GAS GAUGE AND LET THE CAPTAIN KNOW HOW MUCH FUEL YOU HAVE.**
- HOW DOES THE WEATHER LOOK?**
Don't head out on the water if it looks like it's going to storm. Check the weather on the VHF radio and help keep track of it during the boat trip.
- MAKE SURE EVERYONE ON BOARD HAS PLENTY OF DRINKING WATER AND THAT THE SOBER SKIPPER IS DESIGNATED BEFORE LEAVING THE DOCK.**
The Sober Skipper can take the pledge at soberskipper.com/pledge.
- ASK THE CAPTAIN TO SHOW YOU THE PLANNED ROUTE ON A MAP OR CHART.**
Then you can help keep a watch for buoys and navigation markers during the trip.
- Last thing to check: **IS EVERYONE READY TO HAVE FUN?**

To learn more about the Sea Tow Foundation visit boatingsafety.com



**Vessel Safety
Check
Saturday
June 10, 2023
9 AM - 3 PM**

**Cookies & Treats for all
that participate**

The boating season is upon us and the SWYC is doing its part. The San Diego Sail & Power Squadron and Coast Guard Auxiliary will be here on Saturday, June 10 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM to conduct free vessel safety checks. Come and have your vessel checked for safety and compliance. We will be serving up cookies and treats to all who have their boats checked. You will even get a nice sticker to display on your boat when it passes.

**Boat Safe!
Come get your boat
Vessel Safety Checked!**

Vessel Safety Checks (VSCs) Update:

36 as of 14 May

DIST# 28	SQUADRON: San Diego	Sail & Power	TOT. CHECKS	# PASSED
	NAME			
	Allan Bombard.		18	17
	Jonathan R. Coats		9	6
	Robert Gibbs		9	6
	Shaun McArdle		0	0
	Michael R. Philbrook		0	0
	TOTALS		36	29

2023 Schedule

May 19	GMM-Mimi's Cafe
June 18-30	ABC's Alaska Cruise
July 9	GMM/Mission Bay Picnic
August 12	SD Cruisers BBQ-SWYC
Sept	GMM/Potluck (site TBD)
Nov 19	GMM-SWYC
Dec 10	Parade of Lights BBQ-Shelter Island

Free VSCs are an important member benefit and a hook to new member recruitment. Contact one of our examiners – P/C Shaun McArdle, AP; Jon Coates; D/C Allan Bombard, SN-CN; or Lt/C Mike Philbrook, AP to schedule a VSC. Carole Hallock, AP and D/Lt Michael Wales are examiners-in-training. If you love checking out boats, consider joining this team.



We are in the process of transferring the Chair of the Vessel Safety Checks committee from **P/C Shaun McArdle, AP** to **P/C Robert Gibbs, JN-IN**. To quote Shaun, *"having served in that capacity since 2006, old age finally caught up with me, and it's time to pass the torch."* We certainly thank Shaun for all of his years of supporting the VSC Program and the San Diego Sail & Power Squadron.

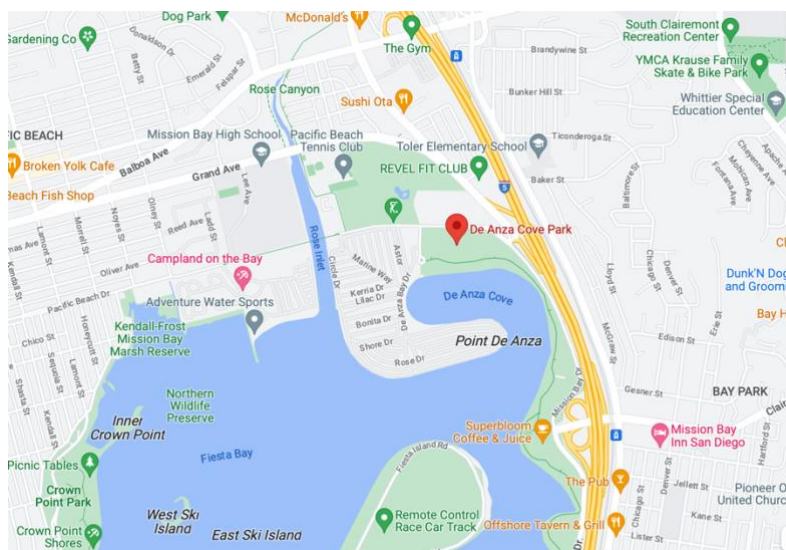
Our team's membership has diminished through attrition, and we need new Vessel Examiners. Summer is upon us, and boaters are taking to the water. The experience is rewarding: One sees all manner of watercraft and, over the years, new friends accrue. Shaun will help anyone through the hoops to become a VE.

Finally, all good boaters plan ahead, so be sure also to put our summer (July) GMM and BBQ on your calendar now:

**Sunday, July 9,
2023**

14:00 – 17:00

DeAnza Cove



See you on the water. Safe Boating!
Carl (carls1199@yahoo.com)



Secretary
Lt/C Paula Vance, P

As secretary of America's Boating Club San Diego, I'm happy to relay information from our monthly ExCom minutes:

Convair runs fun sails every month on 23-foot boats, plus barbecues after the sailing.

National raised its portion of annual membership fees by \$5. **Commander Deb Oberg, JN** proposed we raise the Squadron portion of the dues by \$5 to offset this and keep the revenue into our Club the same. The motion was approved; so, starting in June, our total annual dues will be \$103 for a single and \$146 for a family membership.

Lt. Mike Philbrook, AP is once again actively working on our website, so anyone with pictures or information they'd like to see posted there should send them to Mike: webmaster@sdsps.org.



Lt. Alice Kulikowski is our Boat Show Chair, and will be attending events to promote our Club, including Opening Day at SWYC Sunday on May 21 and Kohler Wooden Boat Show on Shelter Island Drive June 17-18. Alice will be calling for volunteers to help out at the Kohler Wooden Boat Show, so mark your calendars.

P/C Bob Gibbs, JN-IN is heading up our club's efforts to improve our PR exposure. Look for more ads and articles promoting our organization in upcoming issues of The Log. As members you are also encouraged to post pictures and comments on our Facebook site: <https://www.facebook.com/sdpsorg>.

Our Club sponsored the District CoW this year at SWYC. We welcomed Commander Craig Fraser, SN-CN and his wife Liana Mihalca, SN-CN from National. He conducted the CoW and provided a concise update of activities and decisions from National affecting the local organizations.

Our own **Commander Deb Oberg, JN** was hospitalized in February, but we're all relieved to report that she's feeling much better. We all continue to send prayers and healing thoughts her way.

Paula Vance, P
Secretary, America's Boating Club San Diego

Paula



P/C Bob Gibbs, JN-IN, working hard to promote the SDSPS on the water!



Education Report
P/C Doug Bass, SN-IN
SDSPS Club Educational Officer

Squadron Education Class Schedule 2023

2023 has started out well and the rest of the year still offers several opportunities to increase your boating education:

Course	Tentative Start Date	Day	Duration (Weeks)	Tentative End Date
Boat Handling (Seamanship - S)	5-Jun	Monday	9	17-Jul
Offshore Navigation (JN)	13-Jun	Tuesday	10	22-Aug
Sail	11-Sep	Monday	10	13-Nov
Basic Marine Navigation (P)	10-Oct	Tuesday	10	19-Dec

PS: Our last ABC class featured a student who received a ticket for not having their California Boating Card. *By 2025 all California boaters will be required to have one.*

In the United States, boating is a popular pastime and recreation. According to [statista.com](https://www.statista.com), "About 86 million people in the U.S. went boating in 2018" (Boating Industry Association).



That's a lot of people enjoying time on the water! However, with so many people boating, there are bound to be accidents. The U.S. Coast Guard keeps track of these accidents and compiles statistics on them. Let's take a look at some interesting boating statistics and boating accident statistics from 2018...

How many boats are there in the U.S.?



Jean-Jacques Bellier, N, D/Lt Michael Wales, & P/C Paula Vance, P promoting the SDSPS on land!

Boats are a popular form of recreational transportation in the United States. According to estimates, there are more than 14 million boats registered in the USA, representing close to a quarter of the world's total number.

It's no wonder when you consider the vast coastlines and countless lakes and rivers across the country. The types of boats vary widely- from large yachts used for long ocean voyages, to smaller powerboats for day trips or fishing excursions, to dinghies and sailboats for shorter cruises or leisurely sailing. Whatever your need or preference, there is sure to be a boat that is perfect for you!

Boating accident statistics & facts

According to U.S. Coast Guard statistics, over 4,000 recreational boating accidents occur each year in the US, resulting in over 500

deaths and nearly 3,000 injuries.

The leading causes of these tragedies include capsizing or overturning, collisions with other vessels or fixed objects, grounding a vessel on land or underwater object and flooding/swamping a vessel due to on-board water ingestion.

All of these dangers can be minimized through boater education and adherence to basic safety rules such as wearing life jackets and avoiding alcohol.

Avoiding distractions while operating a vessel is also important - 80% of fatal accident victims were not wearing life jackets and almost 20% of all fatalities involve alcohol consumption by operators or passengers. Boating safely can not only protect our waterways but it can also save lives!

Did you know that 86% of drowning victims weren't wearing any life jacket?



D/Lt Michael Wales, & P/R/C Shawn Goit, JN-ON, P/C Kirk Lippert, JN-IN

Credit: [https://www.worthinsurance.com/post/boating-statistics#:~:text=The%20U.S.%20Coast%20Guard%20revealed,%25%20\(3%2C191%20to%202%2C641\).](https://www.worthinsurance.com/post/boating-statistics#:~:text=The%20U.S.%20Coast%20Guard%20revealed,%25%20(3%2C191%20to%202%2C641).)

What can you do to keep boating a safe sport for your family? Education is the key. And ALWAYS wear a life jacket. Even if you are a strong swimmer, accidents happen. Be safe and enjoy the water.

Regards, Doug



SAN DIEGO

Boat Handling/Seamanship

Date : Monday June 5th, 2023 - July 17th, 2023

Time : 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Place : Southwestern Yacht Club, 2702 Qualtrough St, San Diego, CA 92106

Cost : Free. Books are \$70 (member), \$90(non-member)

Contact : Education Officer (seo@sdsp.s.org)



Boaters who want to boat more, boat farther, and have more fun on the water are keen to learn how to operate their boat safely and how to handle situations that arise while boating.

The Boat Handling curriculum comprises a full six-part Boat Handling course and six seminars:

- [Rules of the Road: A Practical Approach](#)
- [Confidence in Docking and Undocking: Slow-Speed Maneuvering](#)
- [Boating with Confidence: Handling Your Boat Underway](#)
- [Anchoring with Assurance: Don't Get Carried Away](#)
- [Emergencies on Board: Preparation to Handle Common Problems](#)
- [Knots and Line Handling: The Knots You Need to Know](#)

The prerequisite for this course is America's Boating Course (ABC).

Topic: Boat Handling/Seamanship

Time: June 5th 2023 06:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Registration: <https://www.usps.org/cgi-bin/nat/eddept/800/getregform.cgi?L-17726>





America's Boating Club®

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

For Boaters, By Boaters™



SAN DIEGO

Offshore Navigation

Date : Tuesday June 13th, 2023 - Aug 22nd, 2023 (10 Tuesday's)

Time : 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Place : Southwestern Yacht Club, 2702 Qualtrough St, San Diego, CA 92106

Cost : Free. Books are \$130 (member), \$160(non-member)

Contact : Education Officer (seo@sdsp.org)



Offshore Navigation (previously offered as Junior Navigation) is the first in a two-part program of study in offshore navigation, followed by the Celestial Navigation course (currently offered as Navigation.). It is designed as a practical "how to" course. The course includes use of the Nautical Almanac, taking sextant sights of the sun, reducing sights to establish lines of position, and electronic and computerized offshore navigation.

This course is taught Tuesday's for ten weeks and uses provided sextants to take and reduce sights of the sun. The pre-requisite for this course is Advanced Marine Navigation

Topic: Offshore Navigation

Time: June 13th 2023 06:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Registration: <https://www.usps.org/cgi-bin-nat/eddept/800/getregform.cgi?L-17729>





Treasurer's Report

Lt/C Debbie Lenart, P

SDSPS Treasurer

Details. Details...

I acknowledge that I am a procrastinator. There are just some things I tend to put off. I really don't like paying bills (does anyone?) and I admit I will wait until the very last moment to pay them. I've been known to miss a deadline (or two) and plaster brightly colored sticky notes all over the place to try and remind myself of upcoming things to do. However, if I do pay a bill, I expect the recipient to note that it was paid and reciprocate by sending back the appropriate receipt or, in this case, sticker.

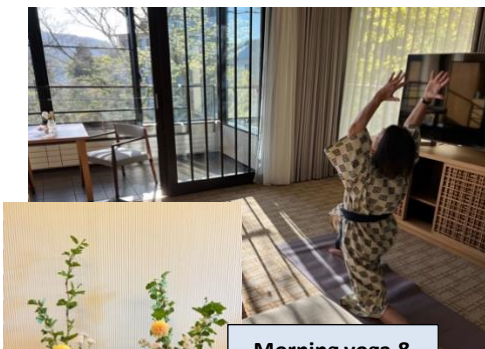
How this all began, you ask?

Well, I received a notification that my boat registration was delinquent. What? I know I paid that registration. It says so on my receipt. Well, thanks to our wonderful DMV system, someone dropped the ball. So, I figured I'll just go online and correct the situation. Wrong. Since the registration was paid, no further action was needed, according to the website. So, off to the DMV I go. Great. Just what I wanted to do on my day off. As you know, the DMV is a place where time stands still. You stand in line and wait and wait some more. I figured I'd get there when the place opened. Wrong again. Apparently, the hours for the DMV website don't get updated regularly. So, I wait. And wait. Finally, I was able to get inside. Then after a lengthy explanation of why I was there, getting unusual looks in my direction



P/C Paula Vance, P searching for geodetic markers in Hakone, Japan

(doesn't anyone register boats around here?), I finally stood in the correct line only to be told to have a seat and wait. Then another explanation of why I was there. Another line. Finally, success! A current sticker!



Morning yoga & ikebana in Hakone, Japan



Precious sticker in hand, I hurried to the delinquent boat and started to peel off the backing satisfied that all would be made well. However, the sticker backing refused to yield and I was left with a mangled mess. Determined that I was not going back to the dreaded DMV I coaxed, picked, and plucked my way through the sticker backing so that just enough of the sticky surface was available to plaster that hard-earned sticker to the bow of my boat. I then had to repeat the process for the port side. Finally, after much picking and plucking I managed to get the other sticker to stick. I whipped out my cell phone and took a picture to guarantee that I did indeed have current registration on said boat.



After all this, I was exhausted. But I was happy that I was able to correct the problem and hopefully there's enough sticky on those stickers to get me through until the end of the year. I certainly do not want to do this again.

Respectfully,

Debbie Lenart

**A year-long membership in the San Diego Sail & Power Squadron
Renew a year-long membership for yourself, your family, your friends
Members-only discounts galore**

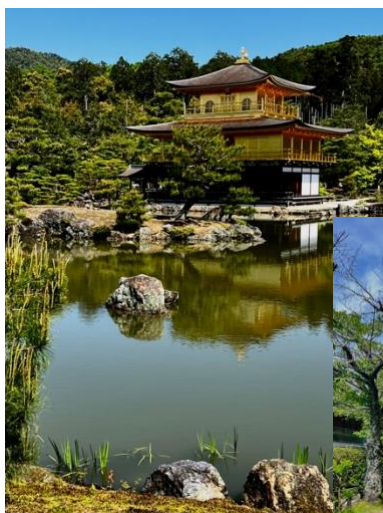
Sailing, Weather, Boat Handling, Advanced Courses, and more

Start a Gift Membership Today

San Diego Sail & Power Squadron
A unit of the United States Power Squadrons®

This 501(c)3 California nonprofit organization has been looking out for Southern California boaters since 1952. Our mission is to make boating education easy to reach, create safer boaters, and lower the cost of watercraft ownership.

[Ed. Note: a few final treats from our recent trip to Japan...]



Red, right, returning?



UPDATE FROM ABC OCEANSIDE:

<https://americasboatingcluboceanside.org/event/district28-picnic/>



District 28 Picnic

Date: July 15, 2023
Time: Noon - 4 p.m.
Where: 1900 N Harbor Dr,
Oceanside, CA 92054

This is the old Jolly Roger (closed) -
The picnic will be on the grassy area
on the side and back of the building



Bring Your Appetite: Chicken, Potato Salad,
Green Salad, Dessert, Soft Drinks & Water



Bring your own chair, hat, sunscreen, umbrella,
jacket, and BYOB



Bring Your Dog : Dog Contests & Prizes

Cost: \$10/person
Reservations required
and must be made by
Monday, July 1, 2023
(Children under 12 FREE)



Bring cash for raffle tickets.
There will be great prizes!

Bring your boat - Sign-up on
the website to reserve an
Oceanside slip

<https://americasboatingcluboceanside.org/event/district28-picnic/>



Oceanside



Newport Beach



San Diego



Oceanside Harbor LIVE

America's Boating Club, Oceanside and **Oceanside Yacht Club** are proud to present a YouTube Live broadcast of the Oceanside Harbor. Nancy Kangas, Shawn Goit, Kirk Lippert, and Darryel Simmons are the Web Cam Team. Check the harbor conditions or just have fun watching the boats going by. We will be putting a flag/windsock up soon to depict how windy it is. In the near future, we will also be posting weather details, like wind and temperature. Below are screenshots of some of the activity in the harbor in the last week.

PLEASE SUBSCRIBE AND LIKE

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yHLVmPAh0Dw>





Law Report

D/LtC Michael Wales
SDSPS Legal Officer

MARITIME LAW CORNER

By Mike Wales,
District 28 Law Officer



Illegal Charters

Mission Bay

Many of you have probably seen the news about the City of San Diego and SDPD's recent sting operations in Mission Bay where they fined several illegal charter operators and impounded a few boats. This was a follow-up to a campaign they did last year where SDPD cited close to 100 illegally rented wave runners. Many of these illegal charter citations involved boat owners advertising their vessel at an hourly rate on GetMyBoat. That is, however, illegal. Mission Bay is designated as a San Diego City Park and the San Diego Municipal Code applies to charter operations on Mission Bay. Thus, the San Diego Police have jurisdiction on Mission Bay. The San Diego Municipal Code requires a charter operation on Mission Bay to have a brick-and-mortar office, business tax certificate, permit, and appropriate inspections of the vessel. There are no more permits to be issued for Mission Bay, however.

San Diego Bay

Jurisdiction over charter operations in San Diego Bay belongs to the Port of San Diego. Violations of the San Diego Unified Port District Code ("Port Code") are enforced by the Harbor Police and the United States Coast Guard. Section 4.37 of the Port Code states that any charter operation, whether fishing, whale watching, sightseeing or otherwise, shall pay for, and display, a valid Charter Vessel Operation Decal signifying that a District tenant marina or Sportfishing Landing has verified the Charter Vessel's operations and compliance with all of the insurance, inspection, documentation, business license, and all other state city and Coast Guard requirements as set forth in Section 4.37. So far, 205 Charter Vessel Operations Decals have been issued this year.

Illegal charters remain a problem on Mission Bay and San Diego Bay. There are still many individuals and companies advertising rentals and charters that are not permitted by the City Municipal Code or the Port Code or not following the Coast Guard's most basic rules. There are many vessel owners operating under the radar through apps like Get My Boat, Boat Setter, and more. We can expect more enforcement on the Bay this Summer.

ABC – San Diego Past Commanders

A 'fluther' of jellyfish; a 'flotilla' of swordfish; a 'herd' of seahorses. What do you call a collection of ex-Club Commanders?

And the winner is...

Michael Wales is a San Diego attorney and co-owner of AGL Yacht Sales on Harbor Island. You may reach him at 619.493.1700 or at mwales@waleslaw.com.



Lessons Learned from the US Coast Guard – 2023



P/D/C Adriaan Veldhuisen, SN-ON
San Luis Rey Sail & Power Squadron

[Ed. Note: This issue of the Ships' Mail continues a regular educational column by one of our local senior USPS members, a USCG-licensed Captain, and a great instructor. This marks but one of several initiatives to bring our geographically close Squadrons closer nautically, educationally, and socially. Please thank Adriaan for his willingness to help us educate the San Diego Sail & Power Squadron boating community!]

SAFETY LESSONS FROM THE US COAST GUARD – May

April did not include any boating adventures or time on the water for us. Even though we spent a week in California, met with our old boating friends, attended a boating safety conference, and taught a seminar about our organization. Still, the one sailing event we had lined up was canceled. We are determined to plan better the next time we visit the west coast.

So, while "Spring has sprung," as they say in this part of the country, and the gardens and house repairs are high on my list of things to do, let me now focus on my monthly message about boating safety. At the March challenge, we looked at our Actions to avoid collision." And maneuvering with power-driven vessels in a harbor. This may be an excellent opportunity to remind you that every USCG Rule applies INLAND in one way but INTERNATIONAL in another. These two sides are often similar or identical, but sometimes significant differences exist. It is always good to compare the two. So I asked: when power-driven vessels are in a crossing situation, what would one short blast by either vessel mean?

You can find the answer in Rule 34 (a), where the INTERNATIONAL meaning of one blast is "I am altering my course to starboard," and the INLAND meaning is "I intend to leave you on my port side." That means that answer A is correct. What is the difference? For INLAND, in the harbor, you may not need to shift course. All you have to do is respond (same signal if in agreement or the danger signal). Outside the harbor, you should not alter course or speed, if you agree, or sound the danger signal. In agreement, there is no response signal expected. Thank you, Commander Allan Bombard, for immediately sending me the correct response.

For the May challenge, I like us to stay a while longer with sound signals. We will also remain with power vessels and INLAND. In reality, even sailing vessels are power-driven most of the time when leaving the dock, right? So your power-driven vessel is leaving a dock or berth. You must sound _____.

- A two short blasts
- B one long blast
- C one prolonged blast
- D one short blast

Note that this INLAND rule does not have an INTERNATIONAL equivalent. Even if you immediately know the answer, I hope you consider taking a course from our Americas Boating Club Oceanside. Unfortunately, the Marine Electrical Systems course has been postponed, but the Marine Navigation course started on April 4. The Marine Engine class will be available in September 2023. We will teach an "On the Water Boating Program "with Shawn Goit as the instructor in the classroom and on the water. To see if you can join, don't hesitate to get in touch with Jan Follestad at <https://americasboatingcluboceanside.org/classroom/> Captain Adriaan Veldhuisen





AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

For Boaters, By Boaters®



Although it's more than a year away, plan ahead to spend some time traveling with some of our fellow boaters...

Enjoy Burgundy, Provence, The French Riviera, and Paris with friends in July 2024.



AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB
For Boaters, By Boaters®

Burgundy, the River Rhône & Provence

SAVE THE DATE: 02 - 16 July 2024
Group Cruise

PLUS THE RIVIERA AND PARIS
MORE INFORMATION
COMING SOON

RIVIERA
RIVER CRUISES



TE
TRAVEL EDGE
NETWORK
Contact: Jill Powell
1-760-716-1675
MYTRAVELPROADVISOR@GMAIL.COM
57 Years' Travel Industry Experience

America's Boating Club® San Diego
Reminder:

ExCom Meetings will be via Zoom at 18:30 PT until otherwise posted. And General Membership Meetings are at Southwestern Yacht Club (*unless otherwise noted*) with a start time of 1800 (6:00 PM), at 2702 Qualtrough Street, San Diego 92106.



District Report

Allan Bombard, SN-CN
Commander, District 28

For those of you who were not able to attend or link electronically into the National meeting that was held Saturday 25 February 2023, the following were the key motions made at the National Meeting.

Key Motions (Summary):

1) A Motion to Amend the Bylaws relating to **Electronic Voting** as stated in the Call to the Meeting has been moved and the motion did not require a second. There was no discussion nor objection to the motion to amend the Bylaws related to Electronic Voting and the motion - **passed**.

2) A Motion to Amend the Bylaws relating to the **Composition of the Finance Committee** as stated in the Call to the Meeting was moved and the Motion did not require a second. After discussion a vote was conducted. Changes to bylaws require a two-thirds vote, a two-thirds majority was not reached, and the motion was - **defeated**.

3) A Motion to Amend the Bylaws relating to the **Effective Date of Dues** as stated in the Call to the Meeting was moved and the Motion did not require a second. There was no discussion, a vote was conducted. Changes to bylaws require a two-thirds vote, a two-thirds majority was reached, and the motion was - **approved**.

4) A Motion to **Increase Dues** as Stated in the Call to the Meeting by \$5.00 per Active Member, \$7.50 per active member with Family Membership and \$2.50 per Life Member with Family has been moved and did not require a second. During discussion it was clarified that the proposed increase in dues was a one-time increase. A vote was conducted. A majority vote was reached, and the motion was - **approved**. [A point of order was called for a vote tally, 191 (67.25%) voted to approve the increase, 93 voted against the motion.]



Chris Mannerino

"Pt Loma Sunset"
By the incomparable Chris Mannerino
(from NextDoor.com)

5) A motion was made at the Fall Governing Board and referred to the National Educational Department, which moved that "USPS shall provide squadron educational officers access to all instructor material for online seminars and courses at no cost." After discussion, an amendment was offered to the motion clarifying that "**Squadron educational officers' access** to all electronic version of instructor material for online seminars and courses at no cost." A vote was conducted and the motion to provide SEOs access to all electronic instructor material for online seminars and courses at no cost - **passed**.

A recording of the conference is posted on-line at:

<https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3Da9rn0htd-Tk&data=05%7C01%7C%7C2b7385057f2c4c6a43d608db1a7ac906%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638132886884676221%7CUknown%7CWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWjoiMC4wLjAwMDAILCJQjoiV2luMzliLjBTii6k1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=5Vvnr5YYajbgvit9m7M1cKNeQRC%2FOIN6>

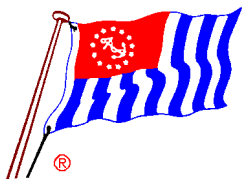


[UPR9dlMqiNI%3D&reserved=0](#)

On another note, I'd like to express my gratitude for the hard work that our District "Web Wizard" **Nancy Kangas, AP** has done with crafting and submitting a proposal that will enable the use of Virtual Reality simulations to teach portions of our boating safety portfolio. The first is "Firefighting," and the goal is to replace the need for the bulky, expensive, and frequently inoperable Bullex machines that we use now. The grant proposal has passed through our USPS/ABC National review process and has been submitted for consideration to the US Coast Guard for funding. If all goes well, each District will have its own VR goggles and software to use in Club events such as boat shows and classes. Stay tuned!

Allan

News from National



Communications Committee's
United States Power Squadrons®
Member News



America's Boating Channel™

Promoting Boater Education to Our Members and the Public

As production of **America's Boating Channel™** Season Seven gets underway, remember the channel has six seasons of videos archived and available to help educate ourselves

and others.

An outstanding example is the video "[Boater Education](#)," which underscores the importance and value of taking boating safety courses. Viewers learn about online, classroom, and on-the-water educational offerings.

Screening boater education videos is an excellent way to prepare for safer experiences on the water. "Boater Education" reminds us about required safety equipment and that we need to know the rules of the road when operating a boat.



Taking the concepts in this video a step further, America's Boating Channel produced a sequel entitled "[Knowledge Versus Skills](#)." It covers differences between boating knowledge and boating skills and why it matters. Viewers learn approaches to take to improve their boating abilities and what pitfalls to avoid in boater education.



These videos also are an excellent tool to help recruit participants to our educational program and to membership. Invite your friends and neighbors to watch, like and subscribe to America's Boating Channel to introduce them to what our organization has to offer.

Available on YouTube, **America's Boating Channel offers quick and easy access to** professionally produced high-definition safe boating and boater education videos. [America's Boating Channel™](#) is produced by the United States Power Squadrons® (USPS) under a grant from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund administered by the U.S. Coast Guard.

Safe Boating Council Videos on Smart TV

Seventy NSBC Boating Safety Videos Added to On-Demand App and Linear Channel

Raleigh, NC, 14 December 2022 – **America's Boating Channel™**, the U.S. Coast Guard funded boating safety and boater education video service, produced by United States Power Squadrons® (USPS), has entered into an agreement with the **National Safe Boating Council (NSBC)** to include seventy NSBC safe boating videos in America's Boating Channel's new smart TV offerings, including public service messages promoting the NSBC's Safe Boating Campaign, Boat On Course, Get Connected, and other programs.

The announcement was made by America's Boating Channel's Vice President of Business Development, **Kathy Strachan**, and **Peg Phillips**, National Safe Boating Council's Executive Director.

"The NSBC's annual **National Safe Boating Week** and its ongoing **Safe Boating Campaign**, which encourages recreational boaters to wear life jackets whenever underway, are synonymous with boating safety advocacy throughout the United States, and we are thrilled to expand our program line-up for both the on-demand app and continuous playing video channel with NSBC videos and public service messages," said Kathy Strachan.

Peg Phillips added, "The **National Safe Boating Council's** video library includes easy-to-understand tips and resources for new and experienced boaters. From knowing essential boating gear to choosing the right life jacket, and from understanding navigational aids to using an engine cut-off switch – this is great content for every boater to be prepared for a safe day on the water. We are excited to share these videos with **America's Boating Channel's** smart TV offerings."

Strachan concluded, "America's Boating Channel's expansion from online and social media delivery of boating safety and boating education videos is now underway. **We're on track to become the first full-time television presence focused exclusively on boaters, with boating lifestyle, sports, news, and entertainment genres of TV programming.** Launch dates for both the America's Boating Channel smart TV on-demand app and linear video channel will be announced soon."

Subscribe for free to America's Boating Channel's smart TV offerings launching April 16 on Roku and FireTV. Participate in video production as a field producer or on-camera talent, in viewership promotion using social media in seasonal campaigns, in smart TV operations as a video category manager or mentor, and in Inlet Drone Videos by recommending inlets to cover or submitting footage.

About National Safe Boating Council

Founded in 1958, the National Safe Boating Council (NSBC) serves as a national catalyst for developing a safe boating culture by providing educational resources, outreach programming, and training opportunities for industry partners and the boating community to influence safe, secure, and responsible boating.

SafeBoatingCouncil.org



Vessel Examiners

2023 Vessel Safety Check Trifold Brochure

If you don't have time before your event to [order free Vessel Safety Check Program brochures](#) from headquarters, you can now download a customizable VSC PDF brochure. The trifold brochure includes information about vessel safety checks, boat safety tips, and links to a vessel safety check video and the America's Boating Club app, which includes a vessel exam checklist, float plans, and other useful safety information. Just add your squadron's information to the textbox and print the brochure locally or share it online or via email. Log in to the member's website, and [download the brochure](#), which will update with the current year's VSC decal. Visit the [Marketing Committee website](#) for other customizable brochures. [-Chip Meany](#)

[READ MORE ►](#)

Technology

We're Here to Help

Do you have questions about the Information Center? Merit Marks? Membership Assistance? Passwords and PINs? The Help Desk is here to help. Email helpdesk@usps.org for a prompt response to any of your member-related questions. [- Jay Stevens](#)

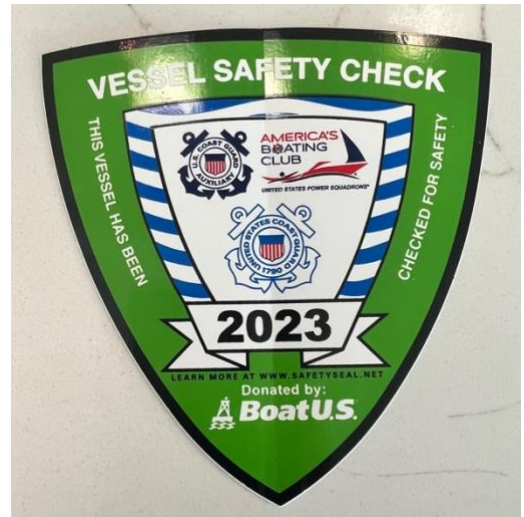
Safety

DSC Marine Safety Alert From U.S. Coast Guard

This Safety Alert reminds marine radio users of the importance and value of properly configuring their Digital Selective Calling-equipped VHF radios to enable proper function during an emergency situation. When properly installed, DSC allows the mariner to simply hit the red DSC button in an emergency, resulting in the vessel's geographic coordinates and registered Maritime Mobile Service Identity number being transmitted to nearby DSC-enabled vessels and shore-based VHF towers.

The Coast Guard strongly recommends that vessel owners, operators, and crewmembers with DSC-equipped VHF radios

- obtain and properly register an MMSI number,
- ensure your GPS and DSC-equipped radio are interconnected, and
- confirm the proper operation of your radio equipment. [-Jeff McKinney](#)





[READ MORE ►](#)

Member Benefits

DAN Boater Benefit Update

United States Power Squadrons no longer includes DAN Boater renewals with dues payments. All active ABC/DBT members can renew their DAN Boater subscription by logging in to their new DAN Boater account at <https://danboater.org/member>. Members who want to sign-up for the DAN Boater member benefit should contact DAN Boater customer service at 919-490-2011. _

[Mary Catherine Berube](#)

Volunteer

Educational Department Seeks Writers and Editors



Do you like to write and edit? If you have expertise using Microsoft Word and PowerPoint and can write and edit content for student guides and PowerPoint presentations, [submit a resume](#) indicating your content interest, expertise, and skill. [-Priscilla Clarke](#)

[READ MORE ►](#)

Become Part of the Communication Team

The USPS Communications Committee needs advisers for the newsletters and/or websites evaluated throughout the year. Advisers assess the newsletters/websites eligible for the coveted Distinctive Communicator Award. Guidelines will be provided to aid in this process. This job is fun, informative, and promises to be rewarding since advisers work directly with squadron editors and/or webmasters. [Contact me](#) for more information. [-Barbara Pearson](#)



The Vikings, of course, knew the importance of stretching before an attack.



United States Coast Guard
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

News Release

U.S. Coast Guard 11th District Pacific Southwest

Contact: 11th District Public Affairs

Office: (510) 437-3325

PADETSF@uscg.mil

[11th District online newsroom](#)

[U.S. Coast Guard conducts search and rescue exercise with Japan Coast Guard near San Diego](#)

05/15/2023 02:00 AM EDT

The Coast Guard concluded a search and rescue exercise (SAREX) with the Japan Coast Guard training vessel Kojima off the coast of San Diego, Sunday. The SAREX is part of Operation Sapphire which was established through a memorandum of cooperation in 2022 between the U.S. and Japan Coast Guards as a perpetual operation to strengthen relationships, increase bilateral engagements, and focus on maintaining a free and open Indo-Pacific.

From the California Department of Waterways

• Become a Changemaker and Protect California Waterways by Becoming a Partner DOCKWALKER!

Join us in one of our [2023 Dockwalker trainings](#). Dockwalkers are partners who inspire and educate boaters and other water enthusiasts to be safe and environmentally sound while boating in California. These partners distribute boater kits with educational materials anywhere where boaters are and while visiting marinas, boat launch ramps, boat shows and boating events.

Caution for Boaters, Water Enthusiasts: Record Snowfall Will Bring High, Fast Rivers, Cold Lakes and Reservoirs

Boaters are advised to take extra precautions and to be aware of cold-water dangers this spring to avoid tragedy. The series of winter storms are causing rising rivers and stream-flow levels not seen in years. The eventual spring warm-up will bring fast flows and cold temperatures when all the snow starts to melt. All Californians are being encouraged to wait until it is safer to recreate in the summer.

In California's high-water years, recreational boating fatalities related to swift-water conditions more than doubled on state waterways when compared to similar conditions during low-water years. According to, CA State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways, DBW, annual boating accident statistics, 50 California residents lost their lives in swift-water conditions during the state's high-water years of 1993, 1998, 2005, 2010, 2011 and 2017 combined.



Key **Know Before You Go** safety points for boaters can be found on the DBW webpage "[Winter and spring boating and marine safety](#)." The page includes vital safety information for boaters:

- Know How to Supervise!
- Be Cold-Water Ready
- Fast- and Cold-Water Videos
- Do's and Don'ts of Cold-Water Boating
- Winter Storm Boating Safety Fact Sheet
- Winter and Spring Storm Checklist for Marina Operators

Additional resources:

- CA State Parks DBW - [Boating Alerts of Temporary Closures](#)
- CA Department of Water and Water Resources - [Current River Conditions](#)
- US Geological Survey - [National Water Dashboard](#)

Services - www.caloes.ca.gov



"After the Rain"
On Lake Champlain, by the comparable
District Commander

Know the Water! Know Your Limits! Know About Life Jackets!

Learn about the Benefits of Electronic Visual Distress Signaling Devices

Visual Distress Signaling Devices can be invaluable for boaters when they find themselves in a life-threatening situation and need to send a signal for help. In addition, by law, the U.S. Coast Guard requires that boats carry three visual distress signals at all times approved for both day and night use, or three for day use and three for night use. In addition, the devices must not be expired and must be stowed accessibly.

Two options for this are marine flares (a type of pyrotechnic device) and electronic visual distress signaling devices (eVDSs). In the past, only flares were available. However, with an expiration of 36 to 42 months from manufacture date, most flares go unused and boaters face the challenge of figuring out what to do with their expired ones.

Expired marine flares have many downsides. They are considered household hazardous waste because of their composition, and boaters are required to properly dispose of them. Pyrotechnic flares contain toxic metals and pollutants such as perchlorate, which is recognized as a water and health pollutant that can impact our waterways and can impair thyroid function.



Reusable alternatives for marine pyrotechnic flares:

previous



Unfortunately, not all California counties offer collection opportunities. Some boaters will store them as a backup or even save them for safety training. Storing expired marine flares as back-up or saving them for safety training poses other problems. It is important to consider that stockpiling them may not be a safe option as marine flares contain explosive materials and can be unstable over time. In addition, getting a flare shoot organized may prove difficult and can be time-consuming. Discharging expired marine flares during civic fireworks festivities or other events is illegal. Please check [this link](#) on the Division of Boating and Waterways website

to learn about some recommended best practices for marine pyrotechnic flares disposal.

Consider switching to eVDSs. These reusable alternatives provide many benefits, including:

- They do not release chemicals when used
- They are environmentally safe with no hazardous material disposal issue.
- They do not expire, making it a one-time purchase and less expensive in the long run
- They are safe and easy to use.

And, for the next Sail class...





Ed. Note: Several of you have asked about name tags.

The primary source for most USPS/ABC name tags is Lake Norman Awards & engraving, owned by Dan Splawn.



Over the years, your Editor has ordered many name tags for himself, The Admiral, and various Bridge members with whom we have served. There are a variety of styles and ways to affix the tag to your shirt, jacket, etc. (I recommend the triple magnet option.) They have the stock images for our Squadron, the other District 28 Squadrons, and our District. For further information, check them out at <https://lnawards.com>. Dan will help you out.

Call For Live Video Tour



22' Axopar 2021 X Jobe
The Revolve XXII is an AWARD WINNING Boat!

view more listings online

1981 Gulf Star 60'	2003 Apreamare 35'
1989 Mainship 41'	1985 Lord Nelson 35'
1977 DeFever 40'	2005 Sea Ray 26'



Leilani Wales
CPYB, Broker
(360) 621-4682



AGL YACHT SALES
www.aglyachtsales.com
(619) 323-1321

955 Harbor Island Drive, Suite 190, San Diego, CA



Another note: as noted above, **the DAN Boater benefit through USPS/ABC is no longer available.** Apparently only 3 families, of the entire USPS 20,000 member base, signed up. The Admiral and I have been members for > 20 years, and they were responsible for our Medivac from Mexico in 2018. I **strongly** encourage becoming DAN members. It's inexpensive insurance, funding goes to promote diving research and safety, and they are very helpful when you really need them. <https://dan.org/membership-insurance/>





America's Boating Club San Diego
San Diego Sail & Power Squadron: 2023-2024 Bridge

Commander

Debra Oberg, JN
 (858) 717-7851
DOberg10@aol.com

Executive Officer

(Open)

Education Officer

Doug Bass, SN-IN
 (415) 321-9800
DougBass1@gmail.com

Administrative Officer

Carl Schwartz, P
 (619) 933-9111
CarlS1199@yahoo.com

Secretary

Paula Vance, P
 (619) 916-6975
VancePaula@gmail.com

Treasurer

Debbie Lenart, S
 (619) 562-9792
Debra6315@att.net

Ass't Education Officer

Bob Gibbs, JN-IN
 (858) 255-9527
BobGibbs555@gmail.com

Members-at-Large

Allan Bombard, SN-CN Shaun McArdle, AP
 Carole Hallock, AP Joy Bladykas, AP

Immediate Past CDR

P/C Doug Bass, SN-IN

Merit Marks

P/C Carole Hallock, AP
 P/C Paula Vance, P

Rules

P/D/C Richard Cross, JN
 P/C Steven Bakalis, SN

Membership

P/C Paula Vance, P

Audit

P/C Carole Hallock, AP
 D/C Allan Bombard, SN-CN

Nominations

(Open)

Public Relations

P/C Bob Gibbs, JN-IN

SWYC Liaison

P/C Carole Hallock, AP
 D/C Allan Bombard, SN-IN

Law Officer

Michael Wales, Esq

Ships' Mail Editor

Allan Bombard, SN-CN

Vessel Safety Checks

P/C Bob Gibbs, JN-IN
 P/C Shaun McArdle, AP

Publications

Alice Kulikowski
 P/C Bob Gibbs, JN-IN

Sea Scout Liaison

Mike Philbrook, AP

Boat Shows

Alice Kulikowski

Web/IT Support

Mike Philbrook, AP

Ships Store/Property

Debbie Lenart, S

Safety Officer

(Open)

San Luis Rey Liaison

(Open)

Sail Fleet

P/C Doug bass, SN-IN

Boating Activities

(Open)



[The editor can be reached at ShipsMail@SDSPS.org](mailto:ShipsMail@SDSPS.org)