



“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. 74, No. 1, Spring Issue 2022

SDSPS Commander

Debra Oberg, JN

Commander, ABC - SDSPS



WOW! What a year 2021 was! A new year is upon us and I hope that 2022 will be better than the last 2 years! We are already off to a great start!

Our Annual Change of Watch in January was conducted in-person at the Southwestern Yacht Club in January. We had around 20 people attend, including some new members. We were actually able to perform a swearing in ceremony for them! Yeah! We also had a few changes to our board. Executive Office, **D/Lt/C Doug Bass, SN-IN** moved to the Education Officer position (along with **Lt Bob Gibbs, JN-IN**), replacing **P/Lt/C Tanya Weimer, AP**, who is looking to spend time on their boat and sail around. We wish them fair winds and safe travels. **P/Lt/C Dan Dreesen, P** also

stepped down as our Treasurer as his primary residence is now in Utah. **Lt/C Debbie Lenart, S** is back in the saddle again as our new Treasurer. All the other members on the slate of officers are remaining in their respective positions. As always, I cannot give them enough *THANKS* for all they do for the organization. If you are interested in joining the Board, please reach out to one of these members.

Also, a special shout out to **P/D/C Richard Cross, JN-IN** for all the work he did at both the squadron and District level on our name change application. Richard was named *Volunteer Member of the Year*. He was assisted by **Lt/C Michael Wales**, who offered valuable legal advice that we were unable to get from National. Congratulations to both of them!!

It is great to see that many in our Club participate in the South Bay Sailing Program (every 3rd Saturday); Sea Scouts are out-and-about, inspiring a new generation of boaters; interest in our classes and seminars is rising; the General Membership Meetings (GMMs) are growing in attendance; Raft Ups are back; and, as a result of all of these, we are getting to see everyone’s smiling face again!!! It is going to be a GREAT YEAR for our ABC – San Diego Sail & Power Squadron!

Debra

America’s Boating Club San Diego

Commander

Irish Toast

There are good ships
and there are wood ships,
The ships that sail the sea.

But the best ships are
Friendships, and may they
always be.

---*Ireland Calling*



Administrative Officer

Lt/C Carl Schwartz, P



FULL STEAM AHEAD! Yes, we are back live and in person!

Well, it's official! Our new name is **America's Boating Club-San Diego**. With special thanks to member Michael Wales.

Vessel Safety Check (VSC) Update

As of now, we have accomplished 30 vessel safety checks. That includes 16 at Convair Sailing, where **P/C Doug Bass, SN-IN** officiated.

Our VEs for the record are: **D/C Allan Bombard, JN** (newly minted VE, congratulations!), Jon Coats (recovering from a knee replacement), **P/C Bob Gibbs, JN** (re-enlisted), **Lt Michael Philbrook, JN**, **Tanya Weiner, AP**, and myself as Ch/VSC.

The VSC Process: Exams are initiated on receiving a VSC request, I notify the requester that our Vessel Examiners (VEs) have been notified to contact the requester, and the first one to do so notifies the rest of the group. All VEs notified respond to my notification whether or not they can do the exam. This so we don't leave a requester not knowing the status of his case.

To date we haven't had to leave a request unattended! I have stepped in when no other VE applied. My thinking on this is that it is a black eye to the squadron when we can't fulfill our duty as VEs. However, I will not be able to do that many more, owing to my physical increasing limitations (without actually demonstrating how to extract a VE from the water). Age now severely limits my maneuverability. So, to comply our VE mission, we will be depending on our existing VEs, and are looking for new recruits!

P/C Shaun McArdle, AP
Ch/VSC



Vessel Examiner **P/C Bob Gibbs, JN** and **Jeanie Gibbs** sailing in Cabo San Lucas during the District 28 Cruise in March. Viviendo el sueño!



Coming Soon

America's Boating Club of San Diego

For Boaters, By Boaters™

Cordially invites you to

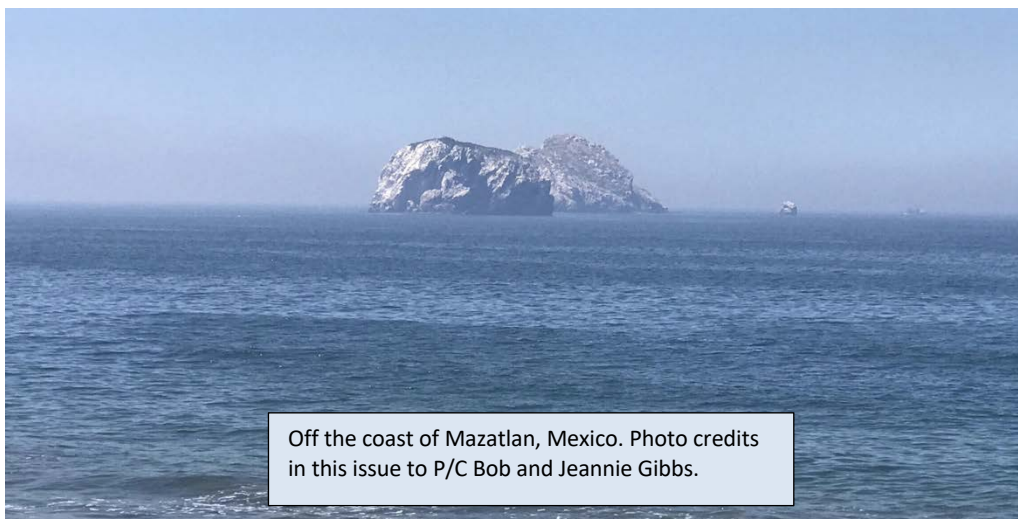
The General Membership Meeting

Saturday, May 14, 2022

6-8 pm

SOUTHWESTERN Yacht Club

2702 Qualtrough St., San Diego, CA 92106



Off the coast of Mazatlan, Mexico. Photo credits in this issue to P/C Bob and Jeannie Gibbs.



July 2022

District 28 SUMMER RAFT-UP DEL MAR BASIN, OCEANSIDE, WITH KAYAK/PADDLE BOARD EVENT *(Day To Be Determined)*



Safe Boating!

Carl~ (carls1199@yahoo.com)

Secretary

Lt/C Paula Vance, P



District Spring Conference: Our District 28 held our Spring 2022 Conference and Change of Watch at the Southwestern Yacht Club on 19 March, then many in the group proceeded on Holland America's *Koningsdam*, traveling from San Diego to Cabo San Lucas, Mazatlan, and Puerto Vallarta over the next week. Almost 40 members and friends participated in this opportunity to combine (brief) meetings, educational opportunities, sightseeing, and comradery. Among our guests were District 28's **P/D/C Ken Smith, AP** (and current Commander of District 16); immediate Past Chief

Commander MaryPaige Abbott, SN; and her husband P/R/C Steve Abbott, SN.



District 28 Commander Allan Bombard, JN, being sworn in by P/C/C MaryPaige Abbott, SN



Cheryl Veldhuisen, D/Lt Jill Powell, P/C Carole Hallock, P/C Paula Vance, D/LtC Sue Bean

Inventory: Several of our members have ABC equipment, supplies, records, and other Club paraphernalia. **P/D/C Richard Cross, JN** and **Cdr Deb Oberg, JN** are working on inventorying everything, so if you have any Club-related stuff hanging around your home, please send them a description. Ultimately, we may need to rent a storage facility, but fees can run high so we need to complete the inventory to make a final decision.

Restructuring: National is conducting study and planning sessions on reorganization of our America's Boating Club/United States Power Squadrons. The goal is improving support of clubs at the local level and enhancing member benefits. **D/C Allan Bombard, JN** is on this Committee. *(Ed. See related article.)*

Books by Boaters: Our squadron raised \$105 for local teachers who are looking for kids' books to help out young readers.

It's never too late to reinvent yourself:

Start a new career at 40
Fall in love at 50
Learn to dance at 60
Start a whole new life at 70

Stop saying you can't.
You can and you should!
Dreams don't have an expiration.

--Rusall

After over a year of cancelled and very informal General Membership Meetings, we are returning to a more formal schedule and structure. Anyone who has suggestions for programs and presentations they'd like to see should send them to our Administrative Officer **Lt/C Carl Schwarz**.

Vessel Safety Checks (VSC): Free VSCs are an important member benefit, and hook to new member recruitment. Contact one of our examiners – **P/C Shaun McArdle, AP; P/C Bob Hubbard, AP; Lt/C Tanya Weimer, AP, Jon Coates, or Lt/C Mike Philbrook, JN** to schedule a VSC. Carole Hallock, Allan Bombard, and Michael Wales are examiners-in-training. If you love checking out boats, consider joining this team.

memorial service.

Phoenix member Frank Fitzgerald, SN (formerly known as The Wizard for his IT expertise) died in April. **P/C Carole Hallock, AP** and **P/D/C Richard Cross, JN** attended his memorial service in Arizona.

San Luis Rey members Commander Jim and Suzi Weaver drowned while boating recently. They were not wearing life vests, and we were all reminded of how crucial it is to wear them. Finally, **Lt/C Debbie Lenart, P; Cdr Debra Oberg, JN; and P/C Paula Vance, P** lost family members earlier this year – husband (Debbie) and mothers (Deb and Paula).



D/Lt/C Doug Bass, SN and Luda Bass celebrating St Patrick's Day in Puerto Vallarta, MX



Education Report

P/C Doug Bass, SN-IN

SDSPS Club Educational Officer



Squadron Education Class Schedule 2022

The educational program for 2022 is in full swing. We currently have an advanced piloting class with 10 students working feverishly every Monday night on learning new charting techniques. We also had a great District 28 cruise along the Mexican Riviera earlier in the month, where we taught to seminars and also how to use a sextant while on board.

In May will have an ABC class and this fall we have several classes scheduled including cruise planning and piloting. It's a full year for education and I hope everyone will get involved.

Of course we're always looking for new instructors. If you have some experience teaching, I'd love to talk to you about assisting in our educational program.

All classes are at the Southwestern Yacht Club at 1830 (6:30PM) unless notified of an alternate time and place. The club is located at 2702 Qualtrough Street, San Diego, CA 92106. For further information contact the SEO P/C Doug Bass, JN doug bass1@gmail.com.



Doug Bass, SN, Steve Abbott, SN, Adriaan Veldhuisen, SN
Teaching 'How to Use a Sextant' aboard the Konigsdam in Mexico!

Americas Boating Course (ABC)

Instructor: Mike Philbrook

Introduction to boating operation, rules and safety
May 13 & 14 (2 days – Friday Night and Saturday)

Seminar Series Instructor: (Various)

Various boating topics are discussed at each session
Sessions are on Mondays.

June 6, 13, 20, 27, July 11, 18, 25, August 1

Cruise Planning Instructors: Ted & Claudia Bowler

Learn some of the ins and outs to make your next long cruise a success
Course dates are on Mondays for 8 weeks

August 22, 29, September 12, 19, 26, October 3, 10, 17

Offshore Navigation Instructor: Dave Baer



Learn to navigate in open water using a sextant and the sun

Course dates are on Mondays for 9 weeks

October 24, 31, November 7, 14, 21, 28,
December 5, 12, 19

Regards,

Doug Bass, SN, IN-CN

Executive Officer [San Diego Chapter of America's Boating Club](#)

Administrative Officer District 28

(415) 321-9800 (m) commander@sdsps.org

Treasurer's Report

Lt/C Debbie Lenart, P

SDSPS Treasurer



Hi Folks,

Lots going on in our nautical section of the financial world.

First, all of our Club invoices from National have been paid. The California State sales tax for the year ending has been submitted and accepted.

Here's some information on 2023 Dues.

Second, your Bridge opted to hold the dues steady for the coming year, with single Members at \$98.00 and a Family Unit at \$131.00. Note that these figures include the District and Squadron dues.

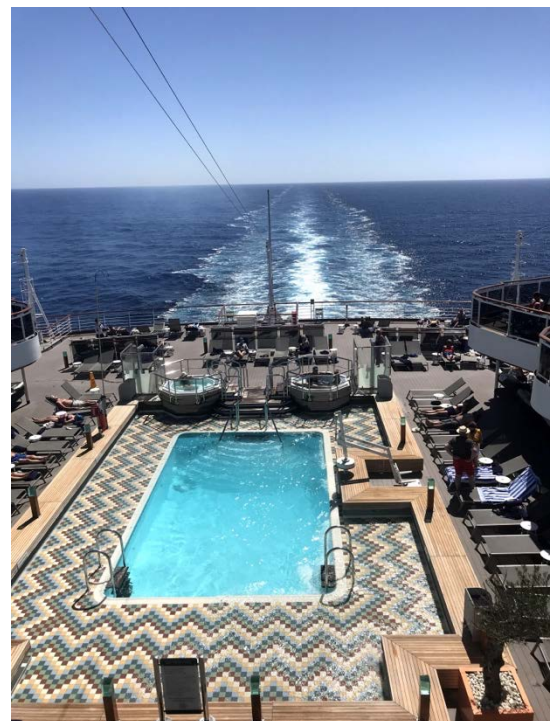
We still have some SDSPS-branded clothing items left over from the recent Change of Watch:

- Three baseball caps in beige and one dark blue.
- One lady's green polo shirt, size small in green.
- One lady's light blue polo in large and 1 medium.
- Ladies' pink polo shirts, 1 large, 1 medium, and 1 small.
- One men's blue 2XL fleece quarter zip jacket and 1 men's grey fleece vest in grey.
- There are also have some tote bags in white and navy.

All items are half off! Please contact me for further info if interested



Steve Abbott, SN Taking a meridian transit sight 60 miles off Mexico in the Pacific Ocean. We know where he is (deck 11!).





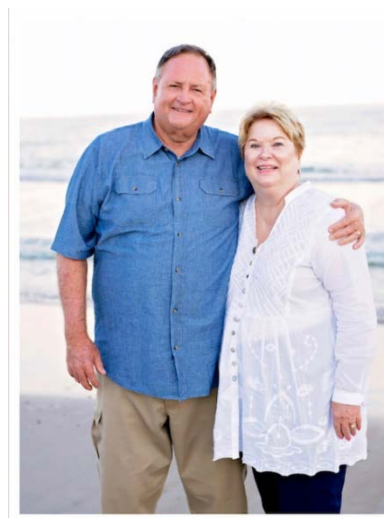
MISSING MIKE COLLINS, JN

By CDR Deb Oberg, JN

Michael Garreld Collins, a long-time resident of San Diego County, passed away peacefully from natural causes on January 1, 2022, at the age of 75. Michael was being visited and comforted by family members at the time of his passing.

Michael married Helen Marilee Kluk in 1971 and they soon would have celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary. Together they had six children, John Collins (predeceased in death), Katie Collins, Stephen (Angela) Collins, Nathan (Erin) Collins, Michael Collins, and Emily (Richard) Bean. Additionally, Michael and Helen have sixteen treasured grandchildren.

Michael was born on August 11, 1946, in San Diego, California to Oran and Wilma Collins. He was the second of three children, survived by his two sisters Patricia Spencer and Susan Megling. Michael graduated from Mount Miguel High School in 1964 and from San Diego State University in 1968, studying business. He then went on to graduate from Thunderbird School of Global Management with a master's degree in finance. Michael was a successful businessman and ran a thriving life insurance brokerage, Collins & Associates, for over 40 years in El Cajon, California.



He was a life-long active member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and held many callings throughout his life. He and Helen served for many years in the San Diego temple and they later served a mission together in Washington, D.C. from 2013-2015.

Michael was an avid woodworker who made beautiful pieces of furniture and helped to remodel the family's San Diego home. He was a devoted hobbyist, who excelled at every new talent he learned. There was nothing he couldn't build, from surfboards to canoes. Additionally, Michael was an experienced sailor and was the captain of his 47-foot yacht, The Marilee, for nearly 20 years. He entertained countless friends and family members and instilled in many the love of

the ocean.

Family was the most important aspect of Michael's life. Michael was an exceptionally devoted father to his six children and a loving husband to his wife, Helen. Michael's children can recount endless memories of camping trips, sailing adventures, desert escapades, international travels, soccer games, family hikes and more. Michael and Helen had a deep love of traveling and saw much of the world together during their fifty years of marriage.

The boating community will greatly miss Mike's presence on the water.



Law Report

Lt/C Michael Wales

SDSPS Legal Officer



MARITIME LAW CORNER

- By Mike Wales, District 28 Law Officer

We are now America's Boating Club® - San Diego.

America's Boating Club® is a registered trademark of the United States Power Squadrons, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to boating safety and education. Your San Diego Sail and Power Squadron ("SDSPS") is one of the many America's Boating Club® squadrons. Your SDSPS is also a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation which is incorporated in California. By way of a request from America's Boating Club® (National) your SDSPS is now operating under the name America's Boating Club® - San Diego. We retain the same non-profit corporate structure but will be doing business as America's Boating Club® - San Diego.

Update on the Proposed CARB Rules

In our last issue I wrote about the concerns of many in the sportfishing industry and other sea tourism businesses regarding the California Air and Resources Board's (CARB) proposed engine emission rules and re-powering requirements. After significant opposition to CARB's proposed engine emission reduction and re-powering rules, CARB held a virtual meeting with industry stakeholders on March 24, 2022, wherein an alternative, amended plan was proposed by CARB that would not cause the significant economic harm to small business owners and others that make their livelihood from their vessels.

The new plan would still require a vast majority of commercial vessels to re-power to lower emission engines but proposes a more realistically achievable schedule for implementation of those lower emission engines and only when the engine technology becomes available, is economically feasible, and safe.

The new plan will require vessel owners to install upgraded Tier 3 engines by January 1, 2025 and Tier 4 engines with Diesel Particulate Filters (DPFs) by 2035, giving them 12 years to comply. You may recall from my previous post that while DPFs are used in commercial trucks, many have argued that they are not safe in the confined engine rooms on vessels, and a boat cannot simply pull over to the side of the road if there is a fire.



Finally, under the new plan, if the mandated technologies are not available or safe, CARB will work with vessel owners to consider alternative technologies and revised compliance timelines.



New Regulations for Small Passenger Vessels After the *Conception* Fire

In our last issue I also wrote about the civil and criminal proceedings in the aftermath of the deadly *Conception* fire off the Ventura County coast. As you may recall, 34 passengers perished in the *Conception* dive boat fire during the early morning hours of September 2, 2019. Five crew members survived. The captain of the *Conception* has been charged with manslaughter and civil lawsuits are in the works, including lawsuits against the Coast Guard.



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? (The editor will buy the best submission a beverage at the next GMM!)

On March 21, 2022 a congressional hearing was held wherein Federal lawmakers met with Rear Adm. John Mauger, of the U.S. Coast Guard, and National Transportation Safety Board Chair Jennifer Homendy to assess the progress of implementing new regulations for small vessels spurred by the *Conception* dive boat fire.

The National Transportation Safety Board recommended in its investigation of the *Conception* fire that the Coast Guard require boat owners to install more comprehensive smoke detector systems, upgrade emergency exits and make mandatory inspection checks on roving watches, after which Congress mandated that the Coast Guard review its rules and regulations for small passenger vessels.

The subject of the March 21 congressional hearing was the Small Passenger Vessel Safety Act, which became law in January 2021. At the March 21, 2022 hearing, Rep. Salud Carbajal, D-Santa Barbara, who chairs the House Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, took the Coast Guard to task for the slow implementation of regulations laid out in the Small Passenger Vessel Safety Act. Although the Small Passenger Vessel Safety Act became law more than a year ago, the Coast Guard did not publish any new rules for small vessels until December of 2021, and those rules have yet to take effect.

Rear Adm. Mauger assured the parties at the hearing that the Coast Guard's new rules for fire protection on small passenger vessels will take effect March 28, 2022. "These rules substantially increase the safety of small passenger vessels by requiring increased fire detection, increased fire suppression, improved means of escape, safer handling of flammable items, additional crew training and monitoring of night watches on board vessels," Mauger said.

The new rules do not apply to ferries or fishing vessels.

Michael Wales is a Maritime Attorney and co-owner of AGL Yacht Sales in San Diego. You may reach the author at mwales@waleslaw.com or at 619-493-1700



America's Boating Club® San Diego 2022 Schedule of Meetings & Events

ExCom Meetings will be via Zoom at 18:30 PT until otherwise posted.

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.

April	4	Zoom	Monday	Executive Committee (1830)
	16		Saturday 1200	Sail Fleet (1200)
May	9		Monday	Executive Committee (1830)
	14	TBD	Saturday	General Membership Meeting (1800)
	21		Saturday	Sail Fleet (1200)
June	6		Monday	Executive Committee Meeting (1830)
	18		Saturday	Sail Fleet (1200)
July	5		Tuesday	Executive Committee (1830)
	10	TBD	Sunday	Picnic
	16		Saturday	Sail Fleet (1200)
August	8		Monday	Executive Committee (1830)
	20		Saturday	Sail Fleet (1200)
September	6		Tuesday	Executive Committee (1830)
	10	TBD	Saturday	General Membership Meeting (1800)
	17		Saturday	Sail Fleet (1200)
October	10		Monday	Executive Committee (1830)
	15		Saturday	Sail Fleet (1200)
November	7		Monday	Executive Committee (1830)
	12	TBD	Saturday	General Membership Meeting (1800)
	19		Saturday	Sail Fleet (1200)
December	5		Monday	Executive Committee (1830)
	17		Saturday	Sail Fleet (1200)

Proposed 2023 Dates

January	9		Monday	Executive Committee (1830)
	14		Saturday	Sail Fleet (1200)
	21	SWYC	Saturday	General Membership Meeting/COW (1800)
February	6		Monday	Executive Committee (1830)
	18		Saturday	Sail Fleet (1200)
	18-26		Sun-Sun	USPS Annual Meeting
	26 Feb–Mar 5		Sunday	USPS National Cruise
March	TBD		Saturday	District 28 Conference @ Phoenix
	6		Monday	Executive Committee (1830)



Lessons Learned from the US Coast Guard – 2022

P/D/C Adriaan Veldhuisen, SN
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 – April

One quarter of the year has passed, it is spring, and once the weather starts to cooperate, we can truly let the boating season take over our lives. My wife and I had a chance to cruise, from San Diego to the Mexican Riviera, with Holland America Line, and we had a great time. Together with my friend P/D/C Steve Abbott, SN, we were allowed to teach a session on how to use a sextant, and how to calculate your latitude by meridian transit. I know, this is an old skill, maybe not necessary in this age with electronic gadgets, but we had a lot of fun. The cruise line made a classroom available, and every seat was occupied. If you ever need an intellectual challenge, then give this a try.

We also said goodbye to a dear friend, Patrick Attardo, who lost his battle with brain cancer. The land ceremony was held on St. Patrick's Day, so we celebrated his wonderful life on the same day and time, on the top deck looking aft, leaving the ocean and our memories in the wind. Patrick's warm energy, and his heroic effort to master celestial navigation in some of my classes, will be in my mind for a long time to come. He was my hero!

At last month's challenge, we looked at the rules for Maneuvering and Warning Signals. This particular challenge, for INLAND only, indicates an intention, almost like in Inland waters the captain says to another vessel: this is what I like to do, what do you think? So, my question was: *Two vessels are meeting on a clear day and will pass less than a one-half mile apart. What is the whistle signal requirement?* The correct answer "C" can be found in the USCG Navigation Rules 34 (a), unless (h) applies. Signals must be exchanged if agreements have not been made by radio. In 34 (a) the term is *shall*, and in 34 (h) the term is *not obliged* by using the radiotelephone.



ABC – San Diego well represented on the Malecon in Mazatlan: P/C Doug Bass, SN, Luda Bass, Jeannie Gibbs, P/C Bob Gibbs, P/C Carole Hallock, and P/C Paula Vance.



The challenge here is one where INTERNATIONAL and INLAND Rules significantly differ. Just look it up: for INLAND there is an extensive section under Rule 34 (a) that dictates how to respond to a signal, while there is nothing on how to respond in INTERNATIONAL waters. My reading: *feel free to respond if it increases safety*.

For this month's challenge, let's look at another difference between INTERNATIONAL and INLAND, the "special flashing light". Again, you need to look this up in the Rules to get it right. So, my question is: Which is a characteristic of a "special flashing light"?

- A It must be yellow in color.
- B It must be placed as far forward as possible.
- C It must not show through an arc of more than 225 degrees.
- D All of the above.

I hope you find the one correct answer in the Navigation Rules & Regulations Handbook, and that you let me know. I also hope that you make plans to take a course from our Americas Boating Club Oceanside. There is an excellent Engine Maintenance class coming up in April.

<https://americasboatingcluboceanside.org/classroom/>

Captain Adriaan Veldhuisen

awveldhuisen@gmail.com



News from National
Communications Committee's
United States Power Squadrons® Member News

National would like to encourage more participation at the Club level, and would like all Club Commanders and Education Officers to consider attending the Fall Governing Board meeting.

Join the ABC Group Cruise Next February!

Over 140 members, friends and family just completed a fabulous cruise together last month, and we are going to do it again next year. We already have 90 members signed up to sail on the incredible Celebrity Beyond from Feb. 26 to March 5, 2023. The seven-day itinerary departs Fort Lauderdale to Nassau, Costa Maya, Cozumel and Grand Cayman. Take advantage of the current Celebrity promotion or group pricing, which includes drinks, Wi-Fi and tips. This is an annual fundraiser for America's Boating Club, so the more that join, the more the club benefits. Please contact me, Dawn Eckhart, for additional details at 727-403-0406



or dawnstraveldeals@gmail.com. Email: Dawn Eckhart

Read more: https://www.usps.org/images/Exec/Nat_Meetings/2022_Fall/2023_ABC_cruiser1.pdf

Looking Forward to Raleigh!

Save the dates Sept. 11 to 18, 2022, for the **2022 Governing Board Meeting in Raleigh, North Carolina**, home of USPS Headquarters. The National Meeting Committee is now beginning to plan the meeting. Interested in joining this committee? We are always looking for volunteers for our committee, just [email me](#). Email: Arlene Anderson



Update Your Weather Forecasting Tools

Did you take the Weather course before last summer? Now you can update your knowledge of new forecasting tools with America's Boating Club seminar, Modern Weather Forecasting, which presents the forecasting updates that are part of the new Weather 2021 course. Learn how to access and use the modern forecasting tools that make weather prediction much more accurate for the boater. Update your weather forecasting tools today. Go to <https://uspsonline.lmscheckout.com/Course/view/modern-weather-forecasting---seminar-1>. Email: Eileen Rickard

Read more: <https://uspsonline.lmscheckout.com/Course/view/modern-weather-forecasting---seminar-1>

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P/C Allan Bombard, JN
Editor, *The Ships' Mail*



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