



United States Power Squadrons' America's Boating Club® 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. 76, No. 4, Autumn Issue 2024



Commander's Corner

Cdr Jerry Murphy, AP



In guiding a team, leaders need to view the situation in two different ways. On the one hand, a broad vision of where the team should go is needed. What is our mission and how best can we achieve it? How do we adapt to a changing culture and new technology? On the other hand, attention to detail is critical to create an effective machine able to get to the desired destination. Those little details such as budgeting, careful accounting, creating flyers, documenting minutes, and communicating effectively must all work together to keep the ship sailing through thick weather and fair.

ABC San Diego/San Diego Sail and Power Squadron has been trying to address both worlds: the big picture and the little details.

We have had a busy and productive Summer, as you will see in the Department Head reports. Continuing our post pandemic recovery by rebuilding in-person meetings, we have had interesting speakers at two of our General Membership meetings and have another potentially fascinating speaker planned for November. We've interacted with several boat shows and have already conducted seven seamanship and navigation classes, with another three starting this autumn. The Fall course lineup includes completing Cruise Planning and Junior Navigation plus teaching Marine Navigation (Piloting), Weather, and an ABC Class for the Coronado Cays.



Commander Jerry
at the helm in HI

We are delighted to report that long time member **1/Lt Kimberly Stanford, AP** agreed to serve as our Assistant SEO effective this Summer. She is assisting with Education Department administrative issues and has helped us acquire San Diego Yacht Club as a second venue for our courses.

Lt/C Debbie Lenart, S resigned as Treasurer in May after 5 years of loyal service, due to work and family commitments. **Lt/C Joy Bladykas, AP** was elected to take over as Squadron Treasurer in June. **P/C Carole Hallock, AP** has been assisting Joy and, after the audits were completed, was appointed Assistant Treasurer this Summer.



Sail Fleet is having an active year under the guidance of Sail Fleet Captain **Lt Dan Dreesen, P**. An average of 6 or 7 boats (range 3 – 10) have been racing on 3rd Saturdays of the month in South San Diego Bay. (See pictures below.) Both ABC/USPS Members and interested non-members are welcome to join in. See our website for details. Dan will be relocating to Utah next year, so we are looking for a new Sail Fleet Captain to take over coordination of the races starting next February.

This Spring our squadron took a deep dive into our finances. **R/C Allan Bombard, SN-ON** created an Excel file to formalize creation and updating of a squadron budget. **P/C Carole Hallock, AP** led a team to conduct audits for the most recent several years. Based in part upon lessons learned from these audits, we have made substantial changes to our methods for budgeting and handling squadron funds. For example, we are integrating E-Books as an option for classes to reduce shipping cost; looking into how we price our course fees and are experimenting with Zelle to smooth payment for both classes and events.



We returned to the use of vouchers, as in former years, to better track our finances. We moved our operating funds to Well-Fargo Bank in hopes of receiving improved customer service. We were able to redeem our matured 30-year US savings bonds and reinvest them in a Vanguard Money Market Fund that invests in US Treasuries. As one might imagine, this has been a huge amount of work, but we hope it will improve efficiency going forward.

A current challenge remains how to attract and retain more students at classes. It is not entirely clear how to compete with free, online instruction or with the more formalized instruction available from commercial enterprises that provide

certificates which enable holders to charter boats both at home and abroad. Similarly, it is not as easy to attract new social members in an era where people are not as motivated to join clubs and organizations. It may be that we will need better Website, YouTube, Instagram, Twitter/X, Facebook, and/or Tik Toc presences to overcome this change in culture. We are trying to puzzle this out. Any ideas on how to improve this situation would be considered with interest! There is some hope that On the Water Instruction may attract more future members, and the D-28 skiff project is testing this idea.

Come and join us in our classes, meetings, and social events!

Jerry

Commander, America's Boating Club San Diego
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(847) 890-2470

Upcoming Events

Marine Navigation (Piloting)	2 Oct - 4 Dec <i>(Still OK to join!)</i>
Weather @ SWYC	18 Oct - 20 Dec
Sail Fleet	19 Oct
Raft-up in Mariners' Basin with SLRSPS.	25-27 Oct
ExCom	4 Nov
GMM at SWYC w/speaker confirmed	8 Nov
Sail Fleet	16 Nov
ExCom	2 Dec
Parade of Lights at Shelter Island	8 Dec
Sail Fleet	21 Dec
2025	
ExCom	6 Jan
GMM and COW at SWYC	11 Jan



Executive Officer

Lt/C Carl Schwartz, AP

Greetings Fellow Boaters!

As the year slows down and the holidays approach, most of the boat shows and public events have concluded for the year.



The San Diego Sail and Power Squadron was honored to be invited to the San Diego Boat Show as one of the only two non-profits present.

One of our goals for 2024 and 2025 is to expand our membership and training by focusing on community involvement. Please continue to invite your friends and family.

HOT "Hands on Training" has begun as our District has obtained a boat from National headquarters for "on the water" training and certification. This certification would be beneficial for all active SDSPS members.

I am looking forward to our November GMM with an awesome guest speaker, and as always, the Parade of Lights barbecue.



America's Boating Club® is encouraging all Squadrons to establish a **Squadron Emergency Response Assistance Team (SERAT)** to render voluntary assistance to your local Fire and Rescue Department, your local Police Department, United States Coast Guard and other local state and federal agencies in the event of a water-related emergency.

Ready to register? You may download the Registration Form [HERE](#).

MISSION OF SERAT

The duties of SERAT shall be to provide a team of qualified and experienced boaters with knowledge of the local waters that are willing to donate time and effort to assist in the event of an emergency. Such emergency may consist of a water rescue, water search and rescue, water related patrols and/or help in securing the area of the emergency. SERAT also performs tasks during non-emergency related incidents and planned events.

During a water emergency, every second counts. SERAT always coordinates its responses to emergency situations with local first responders to provide the assistance they may request. Once or twice a year, SERAT units participate in drills with local first responders which focus on coordination between departments, so that in the case of a real emergency, all responding units are



prepared. They practice real-life water scenarios, like a fire on-board a boat and victim rescue. They treat the mannequins like real people and use these exercises to find out where break-downs in communication and performance can occur.

WHY SERAT?

When on the water, every boater has a duty to minimize the loss of life, injury, property damage or loss by rendering aid to persons or vessels in distress. America's Boating Club® is fortunate that seven Squadrons have a group of trained volunteers ready to assist local authorities in the event of a maritime emergency.



P/C Shaun McArdle, AP and P/C Bob Gibbs, JN-IN representing ABC San Diego at the Southwestern Yacht Club "Benefit on the Bay"

After 9/11, local agencies were tasked with supporting search and rescue (SAR) efforts along with the United States Coast Guard. Did you know that on that day the largest ever evacuation by occurred by boat and it was completed - mostly - by volunteers? If you haven't watched this story "BOATLIFT" (narrated by Tom Hanks), take 10 minutes out of your life to do so at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MDOrzF7B2Kg>

SERAT requires that its members have more specialized skills or additional equipment than the average boater. For example, SERAT vessels are equipped with special identifying life jackets, identifying lights and flags, back-up radio communications and expanded first aid kits. Additionally, the standards developed by SERAT require, depending on the level of participation, its members to complete selected advanced boating courses sponsored by America's Boating Club® plus CPR/First Aid training. In addition, some members must have successfully completed the following on-line training courses from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA):

- IS-100 Introduction to the Incident Command System (ICS)
- IS-700 An Introduction to the National Incident Management System (NIMS)

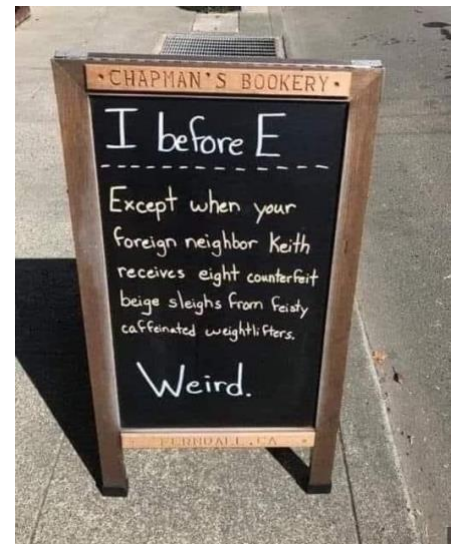
All vessels used by SERAT are required to have a current Vessel Safety Check decal affixed to the boat as part of the program.

Vessel Safety Check Update



Our VSC (Vessel Safety Check) Program continues to be quite robust in San Diego! Past VSC Chair Shaun McArdle, AP reports the following:

"Welcome to Alice Kulikowski to our Vessel Safety Check team. The San Diego ABClub is now headed by P/C Bob Gibbs, JN-IN we now are 6: R/C Allan Bombard, SN-ON; Lt Jon Coats, AP; P/C Shaun McArdle, AP; and





Lt. Michael Philbrook, AP. Moreover, at this writing, we have done 78 VSCs...not bad, and a boost from last year! We are still looking for new vessel safety examiners."

See you in November.

Carl

Executive Officer, America's Boating Club San Diego
(carls1199@yahoo.com)



Administrative Officer

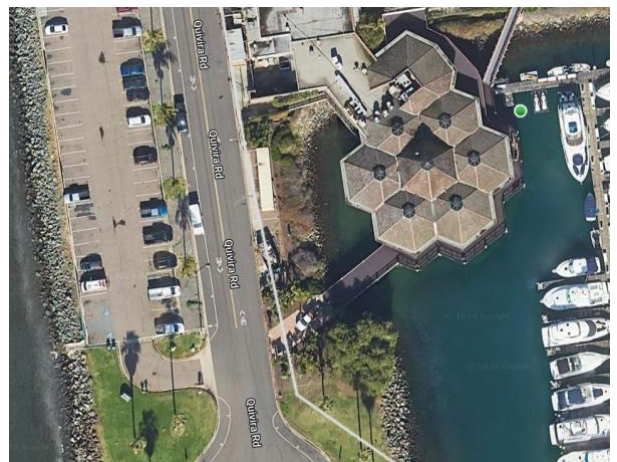
Lt/C Alice Kulikowski

Hello Fellow Boaters,



Our ABC is gearing up for co-hosting a Happy Hour Social with some Wine Tasting on October 26th, during our raft-up with the San Luis Rey Squadron at Bonita Cove in Mariner's Basin. All are welcome! You can wade in to hop on a dingy that will take you to the group or get picked up at the **dock next to the Red Marlin restaurant**. Bring a dish to share as we will potluck dinner aboard the boats in the party. All are welcome and we'll start the festivities around 5 pm. P/R/C Shawn Goit, JN-ON, has generously offered to ferry participants who drive up from the shore or from the dock at the Red Marlin (see the green dot on the photo at the right). Please come and bring your boat if you have one!

All of you are also cordially invited to our November 8th General Membership Meeting at Southwestern Yacht Club, with no host bar starting at 6:00 pm. Our wonderful speaker, Greg Cotten, is an expert in submersible rescue operations. His company JFD Global is a world leader in all aspects of underwater services. Please join us and hear what's new with our Squadron. Invite some friends to come too. There will be a no host bar starting at 6:00 pm. See your email for dinner choices, or if you'd like to simply hear the presentation, it will start at 7:00 pm. We'll have raffle prizes and desserts for everyone to enjoy.



I didn't see the Northern Lights, but I just like to be included.



Courtesy Lt/C John Davidson, AP, SAO, Cyber Squadron (source, FB)

The summer months were hot but wonderful with several events including our annual BBQ at DeAnza Cove, our Ice Cream Social and Movie in Escondido, and our September GMM Potluck. It's always great to see each other and get to know new members whenever we can meet. Again, please come on Oct. 26th and Nov. 8th.

You, our members, are the life blood of our service organization. We want to hear your ideas about upcoming guest speakers, ways to connect with kindred boaters and activities you want to pursue. Come share your enthusiasm and sharpen your boating skills; you're in good company at America's Boating Club!



AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®



A 501©(3) non-profit organization dedicated to boating safety and education

The San Diego ABC Cordially invites you to our

General Membership Meeting

Friday, November 8, 2024

At Southwestern Yacht Club, 2702 Qualtrough St., San Diego, 92106

All members and their guests are invited! We'll gather starting at 6:00 pm to enjoy the cash bar service. Dinner will be served at 6:30 pm. The speaker will begin at 7:00 pm with our meeting afterward.

We are honored to host guest speaker, Dr. Greg Cotten, submarine rescue expert with JFD Global. The presentation will cover submarine rescue history with a special focus on current global capabilities. He'll discuss the myriad challenges of underwater rescue and the solutions in play today. His company is a world leader in subsea operations and diving related services.

Please come! Invite a friend!

We want to share what's happening in the Squadron.

Entrée choices:

Yacht Burger with sweet potato fries - \$28

Grill-Herbed Portobello Mushrooms with mashed potatoes - \$37*

Roasted Brined Chicken with Chef's seasonal vegetables & risotto - \$47*

Grilled Salmon with Chef's seasonal vegetables & risotto - \$49*

Price includes tax, service charge and dessert/coffee station; *baby mixed greens salad included. Alcoholic beverages are available for purchase.

RSVP is required for dinner. Please reply with your [MENU CHOICE](#) by November 4, 2024 at

AO@sdsps.org. Walk-ins for the program speaker and meeting are always welcome, just in case you're unable to attend dinner. Again, our speaker starts at 7:00 with meeting afterward.

Potential Members are welcome!



Event Calendar and Dates for 2024 are located on Page 2

→ *Note: Changes to the schedule will be updated with each issue of The Ships' Mail and on Google Calendar, the link to which is on the front page of our website: www.SDSPS.org.* ←

Thanks! Your AO,
Alice

Administrative Officer, America's Boating Club San Diego
alicek@ucsd.edu
(619) 315-7383



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 meetings.

Our annual dues are currently \$103 for a single and \$146 for a family membership.



Now that our District has a designated training boat, District Education Officer and P/D/C Shawn Goit, JN-ON and our own SEO, **P/C Bob Gibbs, JN-IN**, have been conducting on-the-water training (OWT), or as Shawn calls it, hands-on training (HOT). Check out our Facebook site <https://www.facebook.com/sdpsorg> to see pictures of our training in action. As members, you are also encouraged to post pictures and comments on our Facebook site.

We always need more publicity about our programs, classes, and events. Bob and Alice have been crafting flyers to promote them, but we need your help in distributing the flyers to people and places that may be interested. Spread the word to boat-loving friends and colleagues.



Commander Jerry recently inventoried our Ship's Store items.

If you want to own or give (Christmas is coming up!) one of the following, let him know: USPS ensign, SDSPS hat, SDSPS sweatshirt, SDSPS bookbags, SDSPS polo-style shirt.

In the Zevely Zone!
Jeff Zevely and P/C Bob Gibbs, JN-IN in one of the District 28 "HOT" Hands-On-Training Sessions

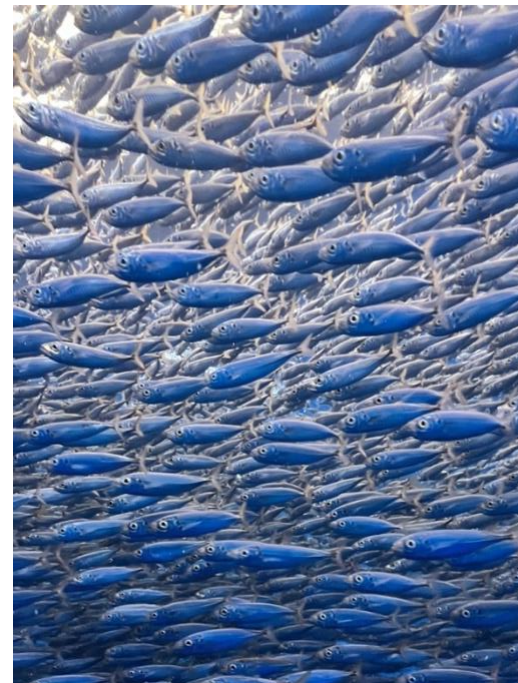
"At some point we need to try another pose."



In addition to my duties as Club Secretary, I am also the Membership Chair. We recently welcomed new member **John Saccoman**, who joined after attending our August Basic Boating Course. D/C Doug Bass' Convair sailing buddy **Louis Swanepoel** and his wife Diana rejoined our ranks. Louis had been helping out with our website as a member of the IT committee during his membership. Please join us in welcoming John, Louis, and Diana!

I speak for everyone on the Executive Committee in encouraging each or you to join us in helping to plan, set up, and run our events and classes. To learn more about these opportunities, please contact one of us at ExCom@SDSPS.org.

Paula
Secretary, America's Boating Club San Diego



Marine Flare Collection Event!



Marine flares contain hazardous chemicals that pose risks to human health and the environment!

The Port of San Diego is partnering with California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC) and Clean Harbors to collect expired marine flares. To participate, please bring your expired marine flares to our collection event for proper disposal.

Port of San Diego Collection Event

October 26, 2024, from 8 AM to 12PM

2210 Shelter Island Dr, San Diego, CA 92106
(Shelter Island Boat Ramp parking lot)

No commercial flares accepted.

MAKE THE ELECTRONIC MARINE FLARE SWITCH

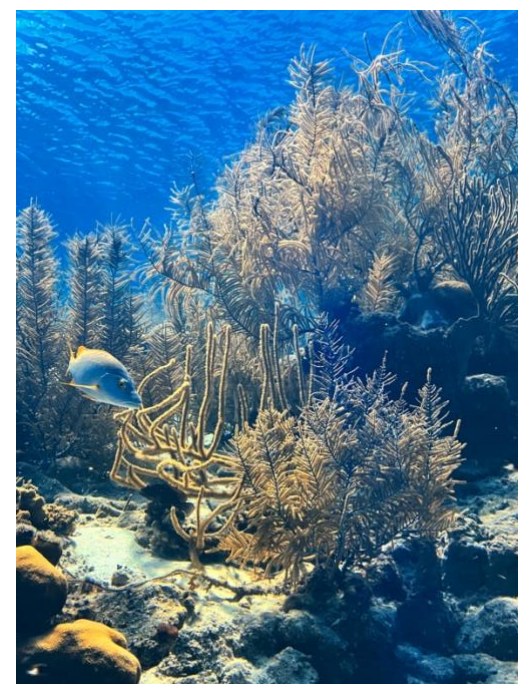
Participants receive one **FREE** electronic signal flare per vehicle while supplies last!







For more information, please contact: **George Liddle, Senior Environmental Specialist** gliddle@portofsandiego.org



Our Wonderful Underwater World
From "Postcard from Earth"
The Sphere, Las Vegas
(Photos by the Editor)



Lani LoCoco
Marina Manager
Half Moon Marina
2303 Shelter Island Drive
San Diego, CA 92106
Tues. Thru Sat. 9AM-5PM
619-224-3401 Office



Education Report

P/C Bob Gibbs, JN-IN

SDSPS Club Educational Officer



Heads Up!!: *By the end of this year (12/31/2024), The State of California REQUIRES most operators of BOATS WITH MOTORS to have a "CA Boater Card" (basically, an operator's license).*

Lots of 'Educatin' going on here!!

- Our **JN Course** began 7/26/24, taught by **P/C Steven Bakalis, SN**, is finishing up with 4 students who will turn in their Sight folders and take exam
- **Short ABC Course** 8/23 & 8/24 was taught by **Lt Mike Philbrook, AP**, with 5 students, at SWYC
- **Cruise Planning Course** started by **Claudia Bowler, AP** & **P/C Claudia Bowler, AP** at SWYC, in August, and 5 students are ready to take exams
- **Marine Navigation** (Piloting) started 10/2/24, being taught by **P/C Doug Bass, SN-ON** & **Cdr Jerry Murphy, AP** at SDYC, with 4 students
- **Marine Weather** will be taught by **Cdr Jerry Murphy, AP** beginning 10/18/24 at SWYC
- **The Short ABC Course** will be starting up in the next few weeks, as we await confirmation from Coronado Cays: (Dates TBD)

The **Education GMM** will be held at SWYC on 11/8/24. Special guest speaker is Greg Cotton (for more information about the topic & Dr. Cotton's biography, see below).

Our first **Long** (8 weeks) **ABC Course** in years, will be offered in early February 2025.

On Water Training (**OWT**) – Hands On Training (**HOT**): A 21-foot Carolina Skiff was supplied to D28 by USPS National in June:

For the past few months, P/D/C Shawn Goit, JN-ON (SLRSPS) and Bob have been collaborating to kick off a program to offer a 6-hour on-the water training course to USPS members and the public. When offering such a course to the public, for a fee, it is necessary for the training to be supervised by someone with a Coast Guard Captain's license. The SDSPS has member **Jean-Jacques Bellier, N-IN**, as our CG Captain. SLRSPS has two members with Coast Guard Captain's licenses. We have had to train these CG Captains in the skills to be taught within the USPS training program. So far, the following trainings have been conducted:

1. 8/17/24: Oceanside Program Launch & Christening with 4 students, including P/C/C Craig Fraser, SN-ON and his partner P/C Liana Mihalca, SN-ON
2. 9/28/24: Pier 32 National City Training with 2 students: **Lt/C Alice Kulikowski** & Bryan Jeffries
3. 10/5/24: Oceanside training with 3 students: Arrowhead Squadron Cdr John Brewington & Lt/C SEO John LeDell, as well as SLRSPS member and CG Captain Russell Schneider
4. 10/7/24: Oceanside demonstration and interview of program by Jeff Zevely, of TV CBS News 8 "Zevely Zone." Previous OWT students Jennifer Goit, Christine Rinne, Russell Schneider & Kirk Lippert were interviewed.



CBS News 8 Jeff Zevely became a Man Overboard during the skills training, so that we could demonstrate the rescue. This "Zevely Zone" episode will air on CBS 8 TV around 10/15/24 and we'll advise the membership for viewing. We are hopeful that all of our local USPS membership will help in promoting this exciting new program of On-the-Water-Training.

The America's Boating Club San Diego (www.SDSPS.org) offers the qualifying **ABC course** and test for the "**CA Boater Card**." In other words, take and pass our ABC course and you meet the California Boater Safety Course requirements. Fill out the State forms, submit your USPS documentation, and you'll get your card in the mail (keep a copy of the course documentation with you on the boat until your card arrives from the State!). The 8-hour course with test costs \$40 for USPS Members.

→ Effective of **1/1/25**, **EVERYONE OF ALL AGES** (with few exceptions) must have a CA Boater Card to operate a vessel with a motor in CA waters. Our ABC Course qualifies for this card. ←



HOT On-the-Water Training in Oceanside
Jean-Jacques Bellier, N-IN, Christine Rinne, Russel Schneider, P/C Liana Mihalca, SN-ON,
P/C/C Craig Fraser, SN-ON

Once a Member passes our ABC Course and has their CA Boater Safety Card, they are eligible to participate in America's Boating Club's "**Hands On Training**," it's HOT!

Two weekends ago, following a very successful program launch and christening of our new USPS District boat "Student Trainer" in Oceanside, ABC San Diego hosted a session in the south bay, at Pier 32:

This past weekend another "Train the Trainer" session was held in Oceanside. Bob and P/R/C Shawn Goit, JN-ON hosted this HOT-OTW (**On-The-Water**) session in Oceanside. Everyone met at the Oceanside boat ramp at 10:30 am and put the boat in the water (remembering to re-insert the drain plug).

See our new boat on the trailer (take the trailering seminar too!):



P/R/C Shawn Goit, JN-ON and 'Student Trainer'

The slalom buoy system, part of the original OTW primary course*, had to be deployed prior to teaching, so there is some additional water work to be done by the instructor team before the actual OTW coursework begins. There are two end anchors and six 20-inch diameter round yellow buoys, spaced 50-feet apart from each other that the students will learn to steer through (forward AND in reverse direction, if the instructors deem the students capable).

Beginning at noon, our task was to “train a trainer” and to introduce two members of the Arrowhead Squadron to the boat and training skills & practices. The training was completed in about 3-1/2 hours, then they retrieved the buoy system and the OTW program was done by 4:00 pm. Everything went well; everyone had fun while also learning some new boating skills, and Southern California has two new BOC (Boat Operator Certification) IN (Inland Navigator) instructors! The Arrowhead Squadron members were:

Cdr John Brewington, AP
SEO John LeDell

The HOT program is off and running in Southern California’s District 28. Read more about this in the current issue of **The Ensign**, beginning on page 31:

https://theensign.org/imag/fall2024/?mc_cid=69577b42d1&mc_eid=4f1dc6cb04

(Note: there are actually two articles in this issue of The Ensign, by SDSPS authors.)

*(*this performance measure, along with the emergency stop, have been shifted to more advanced classes)*

Of course, other courses and seminars besides HOT training are offered throughout the year. Please check with our website, www.sdsps.org, for continuous education course offerings updates. Questions: Please send an email to seo@sdsps.org.

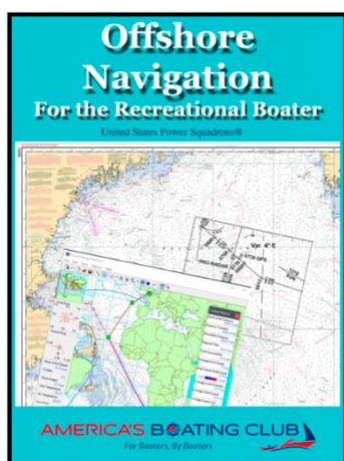


Since November is our Education Month at the San Diego Sail & Power Squadron/America's Boating Club San Diego, here are some really important updates in the national education department, particularly for those members who wish to attain the rank of JN (Junior Navigator) and SN (Senior Navigator), but who do not have ready access to a body of water that will allow at least 3 miles of a west or east horizon (for evening and morning sight reductions that are required in the legacy courses).



South Bay Sailing Series
Source: Lt Dan Dreesen, P

Attached are screen prints of the new courses. "Currents" on the National Education webpage describes courses and materials for "Marine Navigation" and "Piloting." So, Marine Navigation is more current, but Piloting is also still offered. The course materials are different, and the exam is specific to the course.

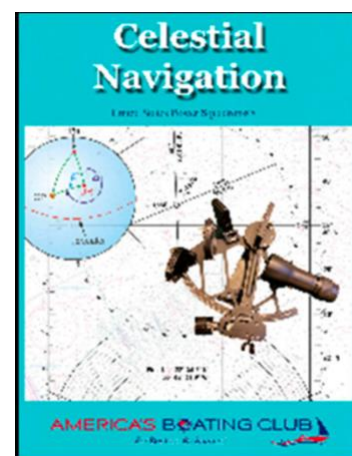


The **Offshore Navigation (ON)** course concentrates on the technology-assisted planning and execution of an offshore voyage. The primary navigation tool is GPS, with dead reckoning as a backup. Electronic pilot charts and advanced **OpenCPN** concepts, such as GRIB (Gridded Information in Binary format) weather chart overlays are included.

Even if you are not venturing far offshore, these software tools are very useful as a supplement to the Advanced Marine Navigation course. Marine Navigation (**P**) and Advanced Marine Navigation Courses (**AP**) should be taken before tackling this course. Successful completion of this course, which requires the completion (and passing) of an open book exam and paper cruise, will qualify the student for the grade of **JN**.

The **Celestial Navigation (CEN)** course, on the other hand, contains very little plotting. It is designed to teach the student to use a sextant to obtain altitudes of celestial bodies and calculate lines of position and fixes for navigation. This course includes no GPS information.

Although it is mathematical in nature, forms and software tools are provided to assist the student. To complete the course, students must prepare a Sight Folder from a series of sights on celestial bodies. This requires extracting information from the Nautical Almanac, making the appropriate calculations, and plotting lines of positions and fixes on small scale charts.



The Sight Folder must be organized and presented to the Navigation Committee for final evaluation, as is currently done with the **N** course. There is no other exam.

For the immediate future, the JN and N courses will also continue to be available. Although they are not as current as the new courses, they still provide pertinent information and students completing them will earn the JN and N grades as in the past. The only issue is that for grade credit, you cannot mix the old and new courses because of the way the content is presented. Either take the legacy JN and N courses or the new ON and CEN courses; they achieve the same goal. Both of the new courses are now available in eBook beta form.



As you can see, there is a lot going on in Education these days. Now that the days are shorter, and time OTW is a bit less, you have a perfect opportunity to add to your boating knowledge.

Check out the latest issue of ***Currents Magazine***, available as a free download on the National Education Officer's website (where this information came from)!

Finally, don't miss the **General Membership Meeting on November 8th**. It will be held at **Southwestern Yacht Club** and will feature **Dr. Gregory B. Cotton**, a graduate of the United States Naval Academy (1987), who will be speaking on "*Submarine Rescue: Global Challenges and Solutions.*"



National fleet submarines across the globe range in crew size from 20 to over 150 and are both diesel-electric and nuclear powered. Since the end of the Cold War, many smaller nations have been able to acquire submarines, and the day-to-day operations have shifted from mid-ocean to littoral where shipping density is higher, and the water is often much shallower.

These conditions, namely, more operational submarines, submarines operating in restricted waters, and submarine operating much more in the vicinity of merchant traffic provide for an increased likelihood of a submarine incident. A distressed submarine (DISSUB) is defined as a submarine that is trapped on the ocean floor in depths shallower than its crush depth with surviving crew members on board. If shallow enough, special escape suits may be used to "blow and go" to the surface whilst for many other reasons it might be best to await rescue from a small, crewed submersible, or rather an underwater ambulance.

This presentation will provide an overview of submarine rescue history and focus on current global capabilities, discuss myriad challenges and describe several solutions that are in play today.

Bob

South Bay Sailing Series
Source: Lt Dan Dreesen, P

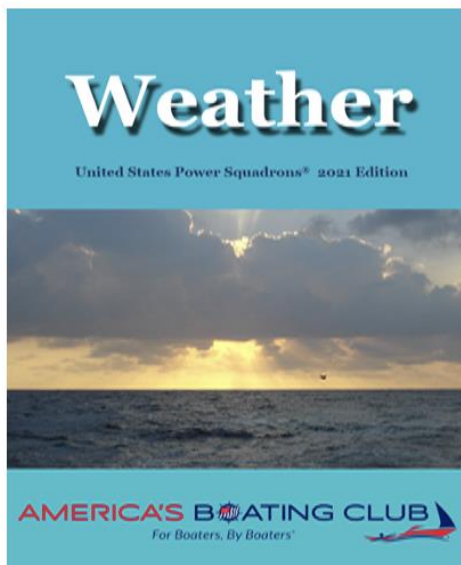
Robert Gibbs, JN-IN
BobGibbs555@gmail.com





AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB®
For Boaters, By Boaters™
A 501©(3) non-profit organization dedicated to boating safety and education
San Diego Sail and Power Squadron (SDSPS.ORG)

WE INVITE YOU TO COME AND LEARN ABOUT WEATHER AND BOATING!



Date: Fridays, 10/18 through 12/20, 2024.

Time: 6:30 to 8:30 PM.

**Place: Southwestern Yacht Club
2702 Qualtrough Street
San Diego, CA 92106.**

**Cost: \$85 member,
\$115 non-member**

**Contact: Cdr Jerry Murphy
commander@sdps.org**

Click QR to Register in Advance:



WHAT YOU'LL LEARN:

- The basic forces that create and influence weather.
- How to read and interpret weather maps and forecasts.
- How to read the sky, the wind, and the barometer.
- Specific threats: lightning, tornadoes, and hurricanes.
- An introduction to forecasting.
- How to acquire modern weather and forecasting data on your boat.
- We will also discuss how to deal with severe weather at sea.

Weather affects all boaters, and the further out you go, the more you will need to understand, predict, and respond to it.

This is your chance to learn the tools of weather needed by the prudent mariner.

Other courses and seminars may be offered throughout the year.

Please see www.sdps.org, for continuous education course offerings updates.

Happy Birthday!

What could be more important National News than to wish our own **P/C Carole Hallock, AP**, shown in the photo on the right with her sister Judi McDonald, a very happy 80th birthday? **R/C Bombard** happened to be in Las Vegas during this world event, catching up with Carole, her husband **P/D/C Richard Cross, SN-ON**, and several friends from the Las Vegas Sail & Power Squadron.

Here is a photo of Carole with her sister on the happy day!





Lessons Learned from the US Coast Guard – 2023



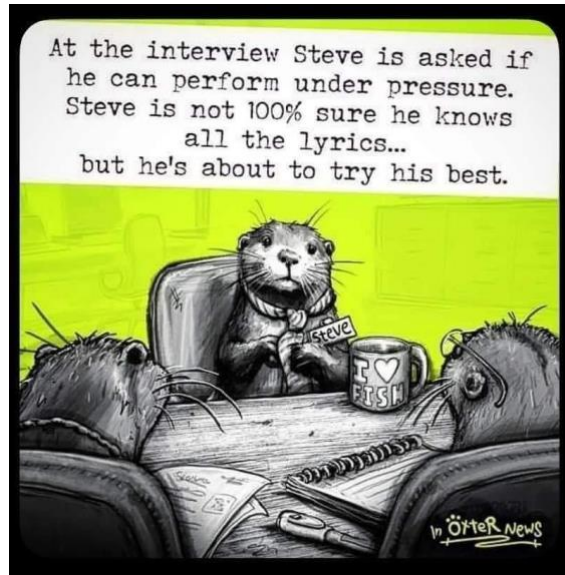
P/D/C Adriaan Veldhuisen, SN-ON
San Luis Rey Sail & Power Squadron

[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 – October

I am surely not the only one who feels uncomfortable during the election process. Even lifelong friends seem to become adversaries, albeit only for a while. I looked at what I wrote about this topic, four years ago, and the answer is **nothing**. We had bigger problems in 2020, when I wrote "How do we know what the new normal looks like? Is it when we all wear masks in public, without thinking or complaining? Or is it when all restaurants, bars and public places have their seats 6 feet apart? I hope that I will never get used to a life without close proximity to family, friends, handshakes, hugs and travel." So, you see, it's my opinion that we can get through the feeling of discomfort if we manage to remain civil and understanding.

As a Coast Guard licensed captain, I keep track of their safety reports. That may seem boring to some, and at times I wish it was. The media wants to tell us what's exciting. I looked at two recent topics in the news, one about the Titan implosion and the other about two rescues. The Titan Implosion got most of the attention from the media. Of the rescues, one is of 3 boaters rescued of a sinking ship near Hawaii, the other rescue is where the US Coast Guard plucks a stranded boater from the high seas, off the coast of Florida. One comment caught my particular attention, where a Coast Guard rescuer said: "The distressed boater did an outstanding job by wearing his life jacket and having a marine-grade radio on board his vessel." We tend to dwell on things that go wrong, but in this case, lives were saved because of the supreme skills of our Coast Guard and because of what these boaters did right.



Courtesy Lt/C John Davidson, AP, SAO, Cyber Squadron (source, FB)

In my last challenge I looked at restricted visibility for INLAND and INTERNATIONAL. I asked for your observation when a vessel sounds a signal of one short, one prolonged, and one short blast. Thank you, R/C Bombard, for giving me the answer - at Anchor. Most importantly, Allan also quoted the USCG Rule - Rule 35 (g). This signal is somewhat unusual, and many boaters may have to look it up when they hear this signal. It gets even more unusual when you read the full text. It says: A vessel at anchor shall at intervals of not more than one minute ring the bell rapidly for about 5 seconds. And that is why a ship's bell, even when attached to an internal bulkhead, is easily dismantled for you to run on deck and ring.



For this month's challenge, I chose a very simple question. You may not have considered this topic because most times, when we buy a boat, she comes with the proper lights that comply with US Coast Guard regulations. To answer, it helps to draw the situation on paper **and** try to think of the reason. So here it goes: the white masthead light required for a power-driven vessel under the Rules must be fixed and show over how many degrees of the horizon?

- A 22.5 degrees.
- B 112.5 degrees.
- C 225 degrees.
- D 360 degrees.

I hope you consider taking a course from one of our Americas Boating Clubs, San Diego and/or Oceanside. We also teach the **HOT** "On-the-Water Boating Program" with P/C Bob Gibbs, JN-ON and P/R/C Shawn Goit, JN-ON, respectively, as the instructor in the classroom and on the water.

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awveldhuisen@gmail.com



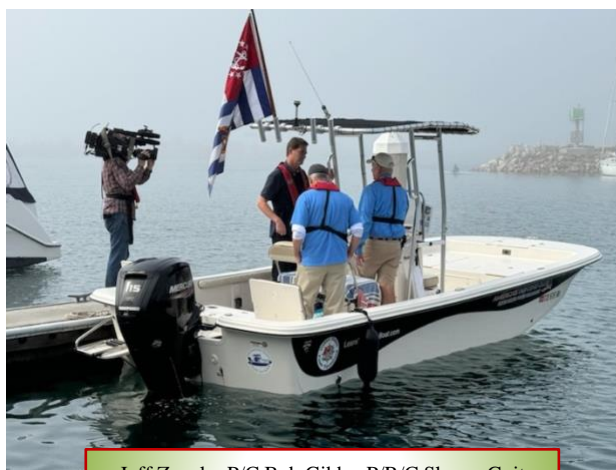
News from District 28

D/C Doug Bass, SN-ON

I recently returned from the governing board meeting in Pittsburgh and wanted to share some of the items that I learned about.

During the meeting I was able to attend several interesting education seminars focused on "OTW" (on-the-water) education. We now have a training boat in the District, on lease from National, for Hands On Training ("HOT"). It is based in Oceanside and, to date, there have been 4 OTW/HOT sessions. These sessions are geared to teaching fundamental boat operating skills to those who have completed a NASBLA-certified Basic Boating Course (our ABC Class meets the NASBLA requirements). Bob Gibbs and Shawn Goit are the primary instructors for the course, and it is currently being simplified to better meet the updated NASBLA requirements.

Recently, P/R/C Shawn Goit, JN-ON and **P/C Bob Gibbs, JN-IN**, arranged some local television coverage in conjunction with the christening of "Student Trainer," our HOT training vessel. Jeff Zevely, of "The Zevely Zone," went out on the water with Bob and Shawn and showcased what the Squadrons in our District are doing for residents of the State of California to increase safety on the water.



Jeff Zevely, P/C Bob Gibbs, P/R/C Shawn Goit
aboard "Student Trainer"

Several members of the District are working with the State to obtain a grant to expand this program. Stay tuned for details!



I also attended an education seminar on the new Sail class. If you have taken the sail class, you may have noticed that it's a very technical class concerning the physics and stability of a sailboat and not so much learning how to Sail. The committee is developing a new class that will be delivered in three courses. The **first course** will be for entry-level sailors to teach them how to sail the boat with the necessary terminology, driving, tacking raising and lowering the sails. The **second course** will be similar to what we have now, in that it teaches the physics of sailing, the balancing stability of a sailboat, as well as the art of fine tuning a sailboat to go faster. A **third course** will be developed based on a Canadian Power Squadron course that addresses more advanced topics such as heavily weather sailing. Within our District, associated with sail and on the water training, Shawn Goit and I are working on developing a new on the water training class to teach students how to sail a basic keel boat.



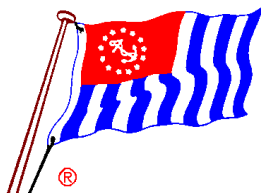
P/C Kirk Lippert, Russell Schneider, Jeff Zevely, Christine Rinne, Jennifer Goit

Doug

Commander District 28
 DougBass1@gmail.com

News from National

R/C Allan T Bombard, SN-ON



USPS/ABC Governing Board Wrap-Up



All of us who attended (4 from District 28, 2 each from SDSPS and SLRSPS) had a fun meeting in Pittsburgh and learned quite a bit – particularly regarding the education department news mentioned previously. The venue was lovely, as was the town (although a bit more sun would have been welcome).



Photo by Shawn Goit

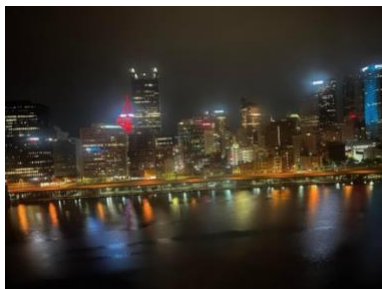


Photo by Allan Bombard



Photo by Doug Bass



Marine SEO

One of the major ways that our Clubs can connect with potential new members is through social media. The SDSPS has a Facebook page and a website, as do many of the 300+ other Squadrons and 30+ Districts; unfortunately, there is wide variation in the content and presentation of these touchpoints, making the organization as a whole look disjointed and amateurish. National has engaged a branding and marketing company, **Marine SEO (Search Engine Optimization)** to assist Squadrons and Districts – if they allow – with brand uniformity and ways to increase awareness of the organization and each of the Squadrons that choose to use their services. The company specializes in the marketing for the marine industry, such as boat dealers, boat manufacturers, boating apparel, fishing accessories and more. As a niche digital marketing agency, its goal is to provide superior and successful marketing strategies for maritime businesses. Look for more information about how Marine SEO can help us in the news blasts from HQ.

As Doug learned in the District Commander/District Exec Officer seminars, if a person wants to find a boating safety course using a Facebook search, they may find America Boating Clubs at a variety of locations. Even if the San Diego area is desired, other locations such as on the East Coast, may pop up in the search. Useless! Marine SEO seeks to provide consistency to all the Facebook sites; in fact, they are willing to do a WebEx with our web administrator and make the changes together on our FB page and website to improve the search results for a particular Squadron. Watch for more information about this.

iMIS Update

Many of you who have tried to renew your membership, or sponsor new members and get them aboard, have been frustrated by “systems” issues in the process. This is a temporary setback as our legacy systems (e.g., iSeries) are more than 4 decades old, and converting the entire organization to a cloud-based system has been quite a challenge. But we are gaining ground!

Once the new iMIS system software has been fully implemented we will be able to accomplish all of the tasks we could previously (such as looking up a member's information – their E-number, rank, grade, address, contact data, etc. - in the INFO CENTER). All of this will migrate to the new website, with its improved interface and enhanced capabilities, such as event planning and joining, billing, fee-paying at events, Merit Mark documentation, and more. When you receive the email to login to the new iMIS website, PLEASE DO IT! It will ensure that your user information profile is correct.

[Member Portal](#)

Your username and password. Password can be retrieved via email or reset by the portal admin. If you did not get an introductory email, please contact hilly@hq.usps.org.

Go to the member portal to update your membership information, add addresses, change your email, create preferences for emails and other content, and renew your membership.

If you are a squadron or district bridge member, you'll go to the portal to manage your membership, update dues renewal pricing, create events, email members, download rosters and dues reports, and add members (pending). We should be sending out a Member Portal User Manual toward the end of this week, so keep an eye on your email.



Member Website

You will need your certificate number and PIN (personal identification number). If you don't know your pin, you can contact help@usps.org for help retrieving it.

Go to the member website to order educational materials, submit vessel safety checks, manage merit marks and more.

Orlando is Calling

Now that the very successful USPS Governing Board meeting in Pittsburgh is over, the National Meetings Committee is gearing up for the USPS Annual Meeting in Orlando. You can too!

2025 Annual Meeting
February 4-9



Orlando, Florida



Allan

*Assistant National Secretary
Commander, Cyber Squadron
District28ABC@gmail.com*





Membership Application

Primary Active Member Information *Please print or type* **Active 18+** **Apprentice (age 12-23)**

Name (First, Middle, Last)			DOB
Mailing Address			Gender
Cell Phone	Home Phone	Spouse Name	
City, State, Zip			Spouse Name
Email Address			Have you ever been a member of USPS/ABC? <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
Personal Skills willing to share			SeaScout <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
Do you own a boat? <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	Boat Length	Boat Name	Boat Type (Power, Sail, etc.)

Additional Active Member(s) *(Primary and Others must live in the same household)*

Name (First, Middle, Last)	Cell Phone	Have you ever been a member of USPS/ABC? <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	DOB
Email Address	Personal Skills		Gender
Name (First, Middle, Last)	Cell Phone	Have you ever been a member of USPS/ABC? <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	DOB
Email Address	Personal Skills		Gender
Name (First, Middle, Last)	Cell Phone	Have you ever been a member of USPS/ABC? <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	DOB
Email Address	Personal Skills		Gender

Volunteer areas: Areas I/we are willing to help the squadron succeed *Please check all that apply*

Hospitality Membership Education Communications Photography
 Newsletter Public Relations Community Service Boating Activities
 Programs for Youth Other _____

Signature 1 _____ Signature 2 _____

Signature 3 _____ Signature 4 _____

Referred by _____ Date _____

Squadron Name	District #	Squadron Code
ExCom Approval Date	Authorized Signature (Membership Chair or Cd)	Authorized Signers Certificate #



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San Diego Sail & Power Squadron: 2023-2024 Bridge

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kimberck@gmail.com

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Carole Hallock, AP

Shaun McArdle, AP
Luis Sepulveda

Assistant Treasurer

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CaroleHallock@hotmail.com

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P/C Debra Oberg, JN

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

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(Open)

Boating Activities

(Open)



Boat Shows

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Social Media

P/C Bob Gibbs, JN-IN

Sail Fleet

Lt Dan Dreeson, P



The editor can be reached at ShipsMail@SDSPS.org