



# United States Power Squadrons' America's Boating Club® ABC - San Diego Sail & Power Squadron



## 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. 77, No. 3 Spring Issue 2025



### Commander's Corner

Cdr Carl Schwartz, AP

#### A New Year With a New Bridge!

As you are aware, our Change of Watch ceremony and banquet was held January 11<sup>th</sup>. Our San Diego Sail and Power Squadron members have chosen a new bridge to serve in 2025. We have a terrific new (and some returning) leadership team. We will continue to add new member activities and educational courses in the year to come. Active involvement is our goal for 2025!



D/C Doug Bass, SN-ON swearing in Commander Carl Schwartz, AP

SDSPS has a bright future as we move in 2025. Our educational programs are phenomenal, and our social events are terrific. SDSPS remains one of the most active squadrons on the west coast. I wish to thank now Past Commander Jerry Murphy for his leadership and innovations in 2024. Cdr. Murphy took on the Power



### 2025 SDSPS Calendar

|                            |                          |                   |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| District 28 Conf.          | Oceanside, CA            | 7-9 Mar           |
| Exec Cte Meeting           | Southwestern Yacht Club  | 10 Mar            |
| Day at the Docks           | (Site TBD)               | 13 Apr            |
| Exec Cte Meeting           | Southwestern Yacht Club  | 8 Apr             |
| Exec Cte Meeting           | Southwestern Yacht Club  | 5 May             |
| Gen Membership Mtg         | Brittany Tower West      | 10 May            |
| District28 Cruise          | Douro River, Portugal    | 10-17 May         |
| VSC-a Thon                 | Southwestern Yacht Club  | 17 May            |
| National Safe Boating Week |                          | 17-23 May         |
| Exec Cte Meeting           | Southwestern Yacht Club  | 9 Jun             |
| Wooden Boat Show           | (Site TBD)               | 14 Jun            |
| Sunroad Boat Show          | Sunroad Marina           | 19 Jun            |
| Exec Cte Meeting           | Southwestern Yacht Club  | 7 Jul             |
| Annual BBQ/GMM             | DeAnza Cove              | 13 Jul            |
| Cruiser Nav BBQ            | Southwestern Yacht Club  | 2 Aug             |
| Exec Cte Meeting           | Southwestern Yacht Club  | 4 Aug             |
| Ice Cream Social           | (Site TBD)               | 17 Aug            |
| USPS Gov Bd Mtg            | Grand Rapids, MI         | 1-7 Sep           |
| Exec Cte Meeting           | Southwestern Yacht Club  | 8 Sep             |
| Education GMM              | Southwestern Yacht Club. | 13 Sep            |
| Exec Cte Meeting           | Southwestern Yacht Club  | 6 Oct             |
| Exec Cte Meeting           | Southwestern Yacht Club  | 10 Nov            |
| Parade of Lights           | Shelter Island           | 7 Dec             |
| Exec Cte Meeting           | Southwestern Yacht Club  | 8 Dec             |
| Exec Cte Meeting           | Southwestern Yacht Club. | <b>5 Jan 2026</b> |
| SDSPS Ann Mtg/CoW          | Southwestern Yacht Club  | 10 Jan            |

*(Note: the calendar is subject to change)*



Squadron as a full-time job, donating hundreds of hours to the reorganization, budget improvement and member involvement. Under his watchful eye, SDSPS had a profitable year.



D/C Doug Bass, SN-ON swearing in the 2025 San Diego Sail & Powder Squadron Bridge  
(L to R): Lt/C Carole Hallock, AP; Lt/C Paula Vance, P; Cdr Bass; Lt/C Steven Bakalis, SN; Lt/C Pete Oberg; Cdr Schwartz

I would like to thank everyone for their assistance during 2024 in my role as Executive Officer and look forward to my new role as Commander. Please feel free to email me your comments and suggestions.

*Carl*

Commander, America's Boating Club San Diego  
([carls1199@yahoo.com](mailto:carls1199@yahoo.com))

### 2024 Member of the Year Award Citation:



**“Past Commander Carole Hallock, AP** has distinguished herself with outstanding service to the San Diego Sail & Power Squadron this year. P/C Hallock served as Member-at-Large and Liaison between the Squadron and Southwestern Yacht Club, coordinating menus and reviewing the bills. Early in the year she served as a mentor to the new Administrative Officer, assisting in planning meetings.

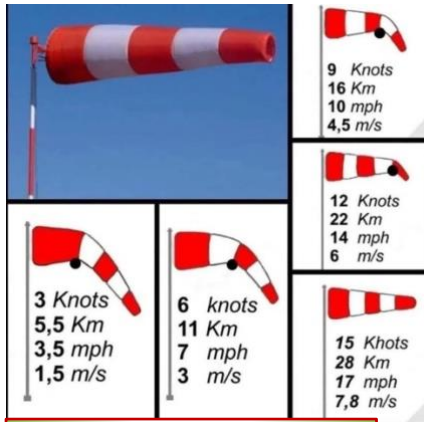
She then assisted the Commander in sorting out the finances of the Squadron, correcting annual reports for recent years and balancing the books. She conducted a total of six audits this year, including one for each of the missing years from 2019 through 2023. She then did a mid-year audit for



2024 at the turnover of the Treasurers. These audits represented an enormous undertaking, requiring carefully culling through years of receipts and bank statements, as there had been no ledger journal kept during that time. This enabled the Squadron to get on top of not only the current assets, but how our funds had been spent in recent years, so we could improve our financial processes.



P/C Carole Hallock, AP receiving the 2024 Member-of-the-Year from Cdr Jerry Murphy, AP. (Photo by D/Lt/C Jill Powell, AP)



Carole then assisted the Treasurer in cashing in our matured Savings Bonds with the US Treasury Department so they could be re-invested in a Treasury based Money Market fund which now accrues interest for the Squadron. Towards the end of the year, she assumed the duties of the Treasurer, maintaining our books carefully. Carole also volunteers at Boat Shows and has been a valuable advisor to the Commander throughout the year.

Source: FaceBook

Always available either in person, online, or by phone, she has never failed to answer a question or assume a task to help improve the Squadron. Her positive attitude, zeal, and carefully accurate work have contributed greatly to the success of the Squadron this year. She is highly deserving to be named the San Diego Sail & Power Squadron Member of the Year for 2024.”



### Executive Officer (Open)

Puerto Vallarta, MX (Photo by the Editor)



### Vessel Safety Check Update (2025)

3 (as of 28 January)

DIST# 28 SQUADRON: San Diego Sail & Power

| NAME             | TOT. CHECKS # | PASSED # |
|------------------|---------------|----------|
| Alice Kulikowski | 3             | 3        |
| <b>TOTALS</b>    | <b>3</b>      | <b>3</b> |





Vessel Safety checks are a valuable service performed by Squadron members and Coast Guard Auxiliary members. During a vessel safety check, examiners are able to instruct boaters as to Coast Guard requirements as well as point out any deficiencies in critical safety areas such as the functionality of navigation lights, fire extinguishers and signal flares. Additionally, performing vessel safety checks is a great way to meet other boaters and learn more about sail and power boats.

Anyone interested in becoming a vessel safety examiner should contact Bob Gibbs at (858) 255-9527. SDSPS-SLRSPS Raft Up October 2024 in Mission Bay

## Administrative Officer

Lt/C Peter Oberg



**Hello Fellow Boaters,**

First, I'm so grateful to jump in as your new SAO. What a privilege to get more involved with our Squadron, particularly since all of you have volunteered to help me make 2025 a success for everyone!



Our Change of watch Jan 11th was well attended (30) and the evenings raffle items were nice. We completed the election of our 2025 Bridge Officers, and Squadron Business. The Meetings and events for 2025 were approved and are listed in the text box on the first page of this issue of The Ships' Mail; for example, our Annual BBQ is July 13th at De Anza Cove.

**Dan Dreesen, S**, our contact for the South Bay Sailing Series, has submitted the following update on the results of the 2024 sailing season. Please thank him for all of his work when you see him! << *A reception was held last Saturday evening at Pier 32 for all captains and crews that participated in the 2024 South bay family sailing series. Pier 32 was generous with food and drinks and t-shirts for the participants.*

*Harbor CMA sponsored the awards for all three statistical races that the group tracks. The San Diego Sail & Power Squadron posts the winners on a perpetual trophy that is in kept in the trophy case at Southwestern Yacht Club.*

**The 2024 winners of the South Bay Family Series were:**

- First Place: **Parlay**, Captain **Dan Dreesen***
- Second Place: **KISS**, Captain **Curt Snyder***
- Third Place: **Consigliere**, Captain **Steve Broadbeck***

*Dan >>*



Commander Carl Schwartz, AP presenting P/C Jerry Murphy, AP with his official Past Commander Burgee



Lt/C Paula Vance, P presenting P/C Jerry Murphy, AP with a personal gift from his Bridge Officers

At the upcoming February 10 ExCom Meeting we will discuss finding a location for the May 10th (Saturday) GMM mtg/potluck, which was adding during the last ExCom meeting. The location is still "TBD." Once a location is decided upon, we will inform the SDSPS Membership and solicit ideas for the meeting. All members are invited to attend the ExCom meetings, but please let me know if you plan to do so as generally the room where we meet is small.

Finally, there are some extra GMM/Change of Watch Agendas and Pamphlets available if someone did not get theirs or would like one.

Yours in Boating,  
*Pete*

Administrative Officer, America's Boating Club San Diego  
Peter Oberg  
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## Secretary

Lt/C Paula Vance, P

Greetings fellow boat lovers,

Not much has happened for me to report on since my last column, aside from the Change of Watch, which is amply reported on elsewhere in this newsletter. However, I do have some membership information to share.

Welcome returning member **Louis Swanepoel, S!** Louis previously served as the Club IT and website resource and we're looking forward to having his skills put to use again to keep our website up to date.

Thanks to Louis also for referring new member **Fuchsia Saarinen**, who attended the Change of Watch as Louis' guest and decided to join. Fuchsia is new to boat ownership and is looking forward to our classes and mentorship.

Thanks to **Debra Tucker, AP** for recruiting our mutual friend **Alleda Harrison** and her husband **Gary Manske**. Alleda and Gary are long-time boaters (although currently between periods of boat ownership) and will add a lot of energy and enthusiasm to our Club.





As secretary of America's Boating Club San Diego, I'm happy to relay information from our monthly ExCom meetings. In addition to my duties as Club Secretary, I am also the **Membership Chair**.

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](mailto:ExCom@SDSPS.org).

As Carole noted above, our annual dues remain at \$103 for a single membership and \$146 for a family.

Paula

Secretary, America's Boating Club San Diego

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## Education Dept. Report

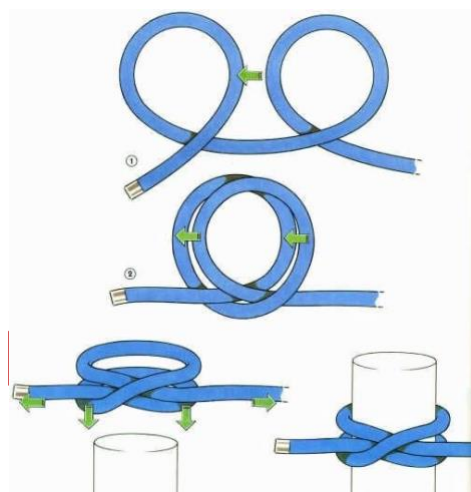
P/C Steven Bakalis, SN

SDSPS Educational Officer

Ahoy, San Diego Sail and Power Squadron members!



As ambassadors of safe boating and seamanship, we have a fantastic opportunity to extend our knowledge to the broader community through the **Public Safe Boating ABC class**. I encourage all of you to get involved



Source: Facebook

helping to teach this class. (If not teaching it, some of you could take this class to make progress on your 'S' grade.) This class is an excellent way to engage with new boaters and impart the skills they need for a safe and enjoyable time on the water. By teaching this class, we can help ensure that more people in our community are well-prepared and confident in their boating abilities and more importantly, the ABC class serves as an effective membership tool. As students experience the camaraderie and expertise that define the San Diego Sail and Power



Source: Facebook

Squadron, they'll be motivated to join our ranks. By highlighting the benefits of membership—such as access to advanced courses, social events, and a supportive network of experienced boaters—we can demonstrate the value of becoming part of our esteemed organization.



Thus, this year we need to concentrate on expanding the number of safe boating classes we teach and expand the geographic area in which we teach these classes. Together, we can ensure that our waters remain a safe and enjoyable haven for all and grow our organization in doing so.

And look, there's more to life in the SDSPS than our Basic Boating Class!

## San Diego Sail & Power Squadron 2025 Class Schedule

| Course                   | Start     | Finish     | Weeks     |
|--------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| Engine Maintenance       | 2/21/2025 | 5/16/2025  | 12        |
| Marine Nav (Piloting)    | 3/24/2025 | 6/16/2025  | 12        |
| Boat Handling (Seaman)   | 5/23/2025 | 8/22/2025  | 13        |
| Advanced Marine Nav (AP) | 6/2/2025  | 8/25/2025  | 12        |
| Short ABC                | 6/13/2025 | 6/14/2025  | 1-1/2 day |
| Cruise Planning          | 9/8/2025  | 11/17/2025 | 10        |
| Marine Electrical Sys    | 9/12/2025 | 12/12/2025 | 13        |

**\*\*\* Class start dates are subject to change \*\*\***

As the gentle waves of the Pacific beckon, there's no better time to hone our maritime skills by taking and teaching safe boating and navigation classes. These classes are designed to equip us with the knowledge and confidence to navigate the seas safely, ensuring our adventures are both enjoyable and secure.

For those new to boating, our classes provide a solid foundation in essential skills such as chart reading, understanding weather patterns, and mastering knots. Experienced sailors will benefit from advanced courses that delve deeper into topics like electronic navigation, sail trim, and emergency procedures. By investing time in these classes, we enhance our own abilities and contribute to the overall safety of our boating community. Moreover, teaching these classes offers a rewarding opportunity to share our passion and expertise with others.

As instructors, we play a crucial role in fostering a culture of safety and stewardship on the water. Our collective knowledge helps cultivate a new generation of skilled, responsible boaters who will carry our legacy forward.



Let's come together to support and participate in these invaluable classes, ensuring that the San Diego Sail and Power Squadron remains a beacon of maritime excellence. Fair winds and following seas to all!

Fair winds and smooth sailing!  
Steven Bakalis - SEO

Steven

Steven Bakalis, SN  
[Steven@sea-hunt.net](mailto:Steven@sea-hunt.net)  
(858) 220-2677

*Now that is 2025, The State of California REQUIRES most operators of BOATS WITH MOTORS to have a "CA Boater Card" (basically, an operator's license).*



## Marine Engine Maintenance Course

**Every Friday from Feb. 21 to May 9, 2025  
6:30 – 8:30 PM**

**SOUTHWESTERN YACHT CLUB**

**Cost: \$70.00 for Books and Materials**

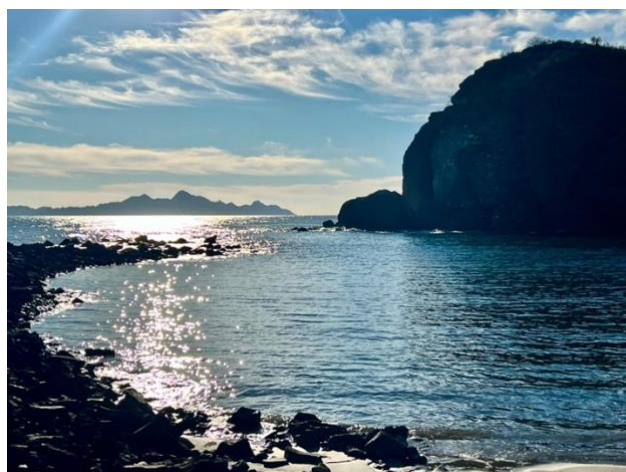
**Contact Steven Bakalis at [steven@sea-hunt.net](mailto:steven@sea-hunt.net)**



The Marine Engine Maintenance course is a comprehensive 12-week course that focuses on diagnosing marine systems while teaching the basics of marine engine layout and operation. Covering gasoline inboards, outboards, and diesel engines, this course highlights the common aspects of engine functionality.

Designed for do-it-yourself enthusiasts, the Marine Engine Maintenance course delves into repairs you can perform yourself, teaches how to diagnose more complex issues that may require professional intervention, and guides you on effectively communicating with your mechanic to ensure accurate repairs. This course also addresses basic mechanical systems, including drive systems (propellers), steering systems, and engine controls. The final chapter offers solutions for problems that might arise while you're afloat and away from a repair facility.

**Registration and Class Introduction:  
Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 PM**



Morning in Loreto, MX  
(Photos by the Editor)



## Treasurer's Report

**P/C Carole Hallock, AP**

*SDSPS Treasurer*

We had a terrific Change of Watch on the 11<sup>th</sup> of January, and we begin 2025 with a good handle on our finances. I'm honored to serve as Treasurer for the upcoming year.

At our January ExCom meeting we opted to hold the dues steady for this coming year. Dues for Single Membership are \$103, and a Family Membership is \$146.



At the beginning of 2024, as a member of the Audit Committee, we realized that we had been lax in conducting audits and set out to correct the problem. In catching the Squadron up to date on the audits, it was apparent that on several different fronts, we were spending more than we were bringing in. During 2024, we diligently worked at covering the costs we were incurring for both the Education Department and Administrative Department as well as cutting back on unnecessary expenses, for instance Priority Shipping of Educational Materials. We finished the year with a slight negative of \$108 which was a great improvement.

Our other project was to cash in our stagnant US Savings Bonds. These were no longer performing, as they had matured in 2023 and were no longer receiving any interest. With the help of Joy Bladykas and Jerry Murphy, we sent them to the US Treasury Dept for redemption and then deposited the funds into a Vanguard Account in August 2024. Thru December 31, 2024, the account earned \$190 which puts us slightly positive for 2024!

We will continue to keep a watchful eye on our finances and at the same time continue our awesome educational classes and social events.



**Fisherman's Harbor in Loreto, MX**  
(Photos by the Editor)

See you at a social event or a class!

*Carole*

Carole Hallock, AP

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## Lessons Learned from the US Coast Guard - 2024



**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 – FEBRUARY

Out with the old, and I hope it was a good year for you and those around you. If not, let's see to it that 2025 is going to make it all better. For me and my family, we're ready for the New Year. As you may know by now, I don't "do politics" in my column, not because I can't take a stand, but because I am just not much of an expert. However, one issue touches Southern California boaters more than some other places in the country: illegal migration.



**P/D/C Duane Leathers, AP receiving a plaque commemorating his 50<sup>th</sup> Merit Mark. From Cdr Jerry Murphy, AP**  
(Photo by the Editor)

The rise of illegal immigration across the U.S.-Mexico border has also seen a surge in the seaborne smuggling of migrants in Southern California. And while we may have different expectations of how that's changing under the next administration, we should be aware that this ripple effect has changed the role, if not the workload, of our US Coast Guard.

The number of times migrants illegally entered or attempted to enter California by boat has more than doubled from 308 in the federal fiscal year that ended in September of 2020 to 736 in the same period last year, according to Customs and Border Protection. While most arrive around San Diego, they have ventured as far as some beaches north of Los Angeles.

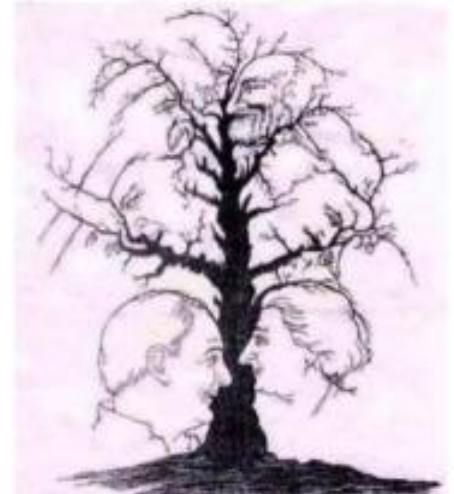
Last month I wrote about some of the recent press releases that caught my (website) eye. It is fair to say that illegal migration dominates our boating news and USCG Sector San Diego, also known as the "Guardians of the Southwest" invests many resources that otherwise would serve the safety of our area boaters.

Some of their 'normal' tasks are:



- Perform safety inspections on 620 domestic vessels
- Maintain 97 aids to navigation
- Save ~150 lives
- Seize over \$2.5 million worth of illegal narcotics
- Assist ~250 mariners in distress
- *Apprehend ~1,200 illegal aliens*
- Investigate ~150 Marine Casualties

My last challenge turned out to be more complex for some than I intended. I looked at a crossing situation, involving a sailing vessel and a power-driven vessel towing another vessel. At the onset you should know, or look up, the definition of each. Rule 3 shows that a power-driven means a vessel propelled by machinery, and a sailing vessel means under sail and machinery is not being used to propel. A towing vessel is a vessel severely restricted in her ability to deviate from her course. To qualify as privileged towing vessel, she should show the lights or shapes that are required under Rule 24.



How Many Faces Do You See?  
(Source: FaceBook)



South Bay Sailing Series  
(Photo by Dan Dreesen)

I said: You are vessel A, a power vessel towing another vessel on open waters. You are crossing paths with sailing vessel B off your port bow. My question is: which vessel is **stand-on** and why? If you assumed that vessel A carries lights or shapes, then the answer is A – vessel A; if not, the answer according to Rule 18 (a) is C – vessel B. One of my readers said: *“Only a moron sailor would hold course in such a situation.”* Agreed! 😊  
For this month’s challenge, staying on the topic of vessel priority, let me keep it straight forward (I hope). In a crossing situation on open waters, a sailing vessel shall keep out of the way (give way) of all the following vessels EXCEPT:

- A a vessel not under command - NUC.
- B a vessel restricted in her ability to maneuver - RAM.
- C a power-driven vessel approaching her starboard side.
- D a vessel fishing.

I hope you consider taking a course from our Americas Boating Club San Diego. We also teach an "On the Water Boating Program "with Bob Gibbs and Shawn Goit as the instructors in the classroom and on the water.

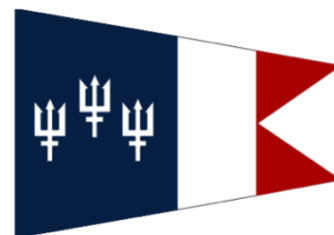
Captain Adriaan Veldhuisen, [SN-ON](mailto:SN-ON)  
[awveldhuisen@gmail.com](mailto:awveldhuisen@gmail.com)



## Past Commanders' Column

P/C Jerry Murphy, AP

### My Immediate Past Commander's Thoughts and Observations

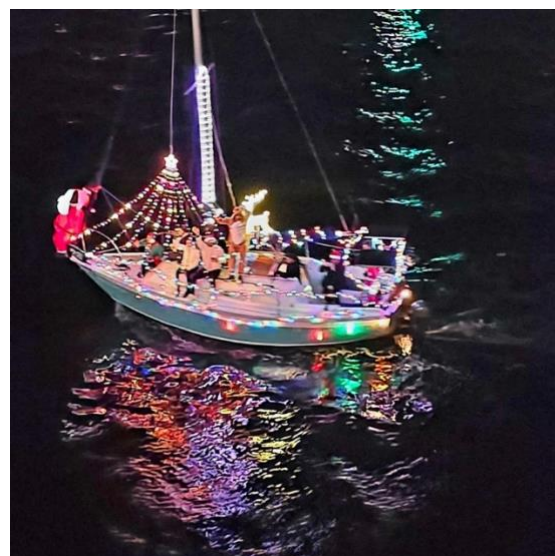


As we transition into a new squadron year with a new bridge, I'd like to take this opportunity to summarize some of our achievements this last year and recognize some of the people who made it all happen. In 2024, SDSPS-ABCSD taught 9 classroom seamanship and navigation courses, including 3 advanced grade courses, 3 elective courses, 2 public boating courses, and the operations training class for new officers. In addition, two SDSPS members assisted in teaching the On the Water Training course in the 21-foot USPS power skiff, under the aegis of District 28. It has been said that 60% of USPS squadrons no longer teach even one class, so our squadron's productivity is remarkable in current times.

Particularly notable were **P/C Steven Bakalis, SN** and **D/C Doug Bass, SN-ON** who each taught two classroom courses this year, and **P/C Bob Gibbs, JN** and **Jean Jacques Bellier, SN** who taught parts of the groundbreaking On-The-Water course. Our principal mission is education, and these are high impact services to our boating community.

One of our goals last year was to have more interesting meetings with speakers. We had a total of 6 meetings, 3 of them with guest speakers. The topics of the speakers included new changes in government produced charts, the history of the HMS Surprise and HMS Rose, and Current advances on undersea rescue of downed submariners. **P/LtC Alice Kulikowski** did a great job organizing these meetings.

We participated in several boat shows and the Day at the Docks. Members conducted 94 Vessel Safety Checks, with the leader being **R/C Allan Bombard, SN-ON** with 56. **Cdr Carl Schwartz, AP** efficiently organized the set-up manning and breakdown of these event booths.



Three former members re-joined: **Jim and Ellen Scott** and **Louis**

**Swanepoel, S. Susan Trebon, P** became a member and has already taken three courses!



December 2024 Parade of Lights, from the USS Midway  
(Photos by Beverly Parsons)



We did a deep dive into our finances, as reported in earlier issues, and have got them back in order. We conducted 6 audits, including those for 4 missed years. We found the missing savings bonds, cashed them in, and re-invested them in Treasury backed securities paying interest. We also re-wrote our financial policies and procedures and appended them to our formal P&Ps.

Twenty-four members earned Merit Marks this year, helping keep the Squadron alive and thriving, with 7 of them contributing over 100 hours during the year. All deserve credit, but I would like to highlight **P/C Carole Hallock, AP** who is this year's Member of the Year. Her efforts to help the Squadron in planning meetings, organizing our finances, conducting audits, and advising me as Commander were critical to our success. Please see the Citation posted in this issue

I'd also like to thank **R/C Allan Bombard, SN-ON** for his efforts developing two budgets as chair of the Finance Committee, editing five outstanding issues of the Ship's Mail, teaching Operations Training, and giving valuable advice and encouragement to me throughout the year. This was in addition to his duties as District 28 Commander early in the year and then Assistant National Secretary as well as Cyber Squadron Commander and District 50 Commander for the year. His voice at National has been and will continue to be a valuable asset to the success of the USPS.

Many lessons were learned this year, and I'll list just a few of them:

- E-Books were not well received by students, most of whom preferred hard copy books. Therefore, we eventually decided to provide the option to students.
- Expedited shipping is wasteful and does not significantly decrease shipping time from the much more economical standard shipping.
- Posting course and meeting flyers around town did not bring in new students. Small Log Newspaper advertisement also had minimal effect.
- Yacht Club Hosted Meetings are becoming expensive, due to the inflationary period we have been living through. Potlucks were more economical and were warm and friendly. However, home venues are not ideal for meetings with speakers.
- Out of about 70 members, only about 24 are active. Part of this is due to the advanced age of many of our members.
- Relatively few of our members presently own boats. This makes on the water activities more difficult than in prior days.
- It is important that the Treasurer keep a ledger journal up to date in real time.
- It is important that the Squadron conduct financial audits at least annually.

### Merit Marks Awarded 2024

|                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Doug Bass            | Alice Kulikowski  |
| Jean-Jacques Bellier | Duane Leathers    |
| Joy Bladykas         | Debbie Lenart     |
| Allan Bombard        | Gerald Murphy, Jr |
| Caludia Bowler       | Peter Oberg       |
| Edward Bowler        | Michael Philbrook |
| Jonathan Coats       | Carl Schwartz     |
| Richard T. Cross     | Luis Sepulveda    |
| Dan Dreesen          | Kimberly Stanford |
| Robert Gibbs         | Paula Vance       |
| Carole Hallock       | Michael Wales     |
| Scott Hinkle         |                   |



- Non-profits can invest capital in money market and mutual funds, to their profit.
- Communication between SEO and Treasurer is important because each cannot see what the other is doing because of the way USPS websites and emails are set up.
- ExCom Meetings should review the finances in some detail each month.
- November is a good month for planning for the upcoming squadron year.
- We have not yet found have an effective way to reach out to the community in the internet age.

Things I would have liked to have accomplished but did not, and which I hope could be improved in the coming year:

1. More new members.
2. Better student attendance at our courses.
3. An up to date and visually appealing internet presence
4. More On the Water activities.



We have an important and useful mission to our community, which is to bring high quality education in seamanship, navigation, and small boat handling to the public, while increasing our own proficiency and setting a good example. To do this effectively, we need more new, active members. As **P/C Steven Bakalis, SN** reminds us, "Membership is job one," or probably should be this year.

I am delighted to turn over leadership of the Squadron to **Carl Schwartz, AP** and his Bridge. **P/C Steven Bakalis, SN** will assume duties as our Squadron Education Officer (SEO). **Peter Oberg** will assume the Squadron Administrative Officer (SAO) responsibilities and **P/C Carole Hallock, AP** will continue her work as formal Squadron Treasurer. **Louis Swanepoel, S** will take over the management of our Squadron website and bring it up to speed. **Alice Kulikowski** has volunteered to be

our Squadron Historian. What a great new team!

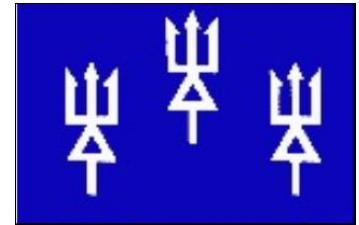
Wishing all of you, and our San Luis Rey and Balboa, brethren a happy and successful 2025!

*Jerry*  
Immediate Past Commander  
America's Boating Club San Diego  
[gsmurphy@ix.netcom.com](mailto:gsmurphy@ix.netcom.com)  
847-890-2470



### News from District 28

D/C Doug Bass, SN-ON!



Doug

Commander,  
District 28  
[DougBass1@gmail.com](mailto:DougBass1@gmail.com)



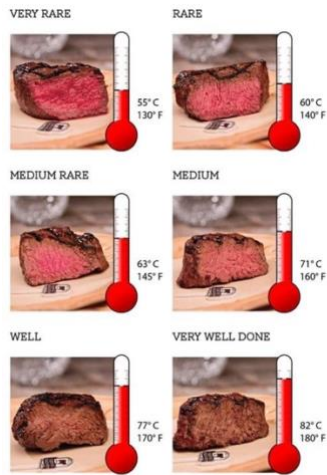
# D28 ANNUAL MEETING AND CHANGE OF WATCH

# 2025

## FRIDAY 07 MARCH

DOCK PARTY—"S" DOCK—OCEANSIDE HARBOR

## SATURDAY 08 MARCH



**CoW Ordering Guidelines**  
(Photo from FaceBook)

### LA COSTA VALLEY CLUB

2080 CALLE BARCELONA, CARLSBAD, CA. 92009  
0900 —1500 1700 —2030

*Bridge: Uniform G –Regulation short-sleeve white shirt with uniform trousers or other appropriate attire.  
Attendees: USPS Polo shirt or equivalent.*



## News from National

R/C Allan T Bombard, SN-ON



## USPS/ABC Upcoming Annual Meeting

### Membership Renewals

Headquarters has received many returned envelopes containing membership renewals and many members have said they have not received their renewal notice. To make this process as easy as possible, any affected member to **please call headquarters**. The HQ staff (Deliah Holloway) will help you renew your membership over the phone (or email or mail a hard copy). The HQ phone numbers are 888-367-8777 (toll free) or 919-821-0281.

### iMIS Update

During the meeting, there will be a continuation of the rollout of the iMIS software system. Two hands-on workshops are planned: Thursday, Feb. 6, at 8:45 a.m. in Salon 7, and Friday, Feb. 7, at 10:30 a.m. in Salon 6. Please bring your laptop!

## It's never too late.



**Ray Kroc -  
Joined McDonald's at 52**

**Henry Ford -  
Started Ford at 40**

While this will not be the last time you'll see this, it bears repeating: HQ is very grateful to each and every one of you for your patience as we have converted our nearly 40-year old system into a software database that will handle all our business applications. Hopefully, the concerns members have had during this transition have been acknowledged and addressed; hopefully, these challenges will arise with less frequency now.

### Marine SEO

There are also two scheduled workshops at the upcoming Annual Meeting to ensure that squadrons are optimizing their online presence and attracting new members through the services offered by Marine SEO: Thursday, Feb. 6 at 3:30



**Harland Sanders -  
Started KFC at 65**

**Richard Samela -  
Won an argument with his wife at 54**

(Source: FaceBook)



Pensacola, FL Bay  
(Photo by the editor)

p.m. in Salon 9, and Friday, Feb. 7 at 10:30 a.m. in Salon 10. Join us for tips and tactics and hands-on assistance offered free to squadron members.

*The Big Reveal*

As you know, America's Boating Club | United States Power Squadrons has long been committed to ensuring both your enjoyment and safety on the water. That's why it's thrilling to announce a new partnership that provides you with a practical tool to make informed decisions and enhance your overall boating experience. This exciting and exclusive collaboration will allow every one of our members to plan their trips with greater certainty, accuracy and peace of mind. America's Boating Club | United States Power Squadrons has partnered with a leading boat technology provider to bring you this innovative tool, absolutely FREE, to support your enjoyment and confidence on the water. Please join us at our Annual Meeting in Orlando for the full announcement of this exclusive member benefit—a free gift for every America's Boating Club | United States Power Squadrons member!

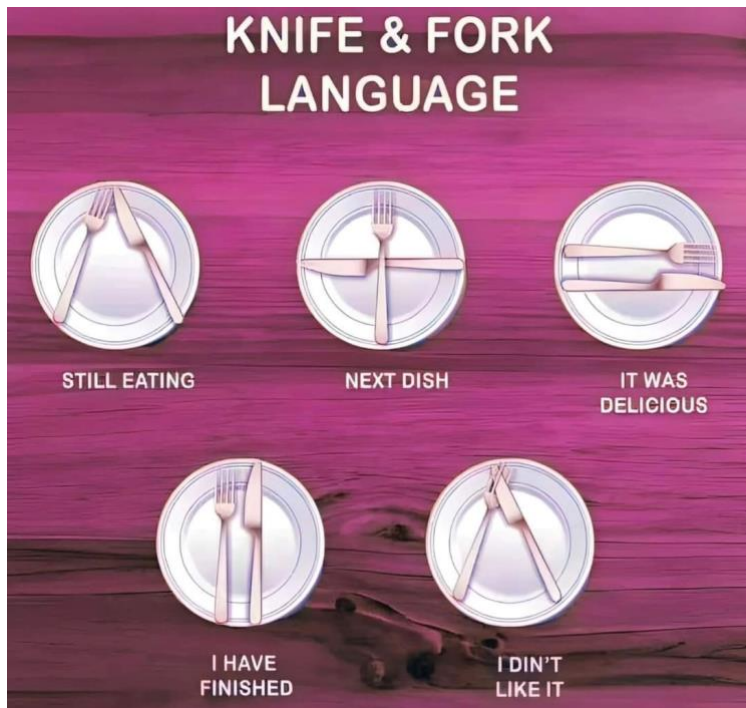
P.S. → Plan Ahead!

The **2025 Fall Governing Board** will be in **Grand Rapids, MI** (2-7 September) and...

The **2026 Annual Meeting** will be held in **Myrtle Beach, NC** (9-15 February 2026). Nice changes of venue!

Allan

Assistant National Secretary  
Cdr, Cyber Squadron & District 50  
[District28ABC@gmail.com](mailto:District28ABC@gmail.com)



How Many Faces Do You See?  
(Answer: 10)

Dining Etiquette for the Change of Watch!  
(Source: FaceBook)



New Members:

If you would like to join our Squadron, please print the application below, fill it out, and send it to the Secretar, P/C Paula Vance, P at 230 W. Laurel St; Unit 304; San Diego, CA 92101. Our annual dues are currently \$103 for a single and \$146 for a family membership.



Membership Application

|  |             |             |  |   |
|--|-------------|-------------|--|---|
| <b>Primary Active Member Information</b> <i>Please print or type</i>     |             |             | <input type="radio"/> <b>Active 18+</b>  | <input type="radio"/> <b>Apprentice (age 12-23)</b> |
| 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?<br><input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO |   |
| Personal Skills willing to share   |             |             | SeaScout<br><input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO                                 |   |
| Do you own a boat?<br><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)*

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



AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB  
UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS



Districts 28 and 24



# France in 2026

WITH US



28 May - 04 June 2026

Escorted by D/Lt Jill Powell, AP



Add 3 nights in Paris and visit Notre Dame and Giverny as a pre-cruise delight

## PRICED AT 2 for 1!!

**BALCONY \$3,999.00 PP OR \$7,998 PER CABIN**

- English speaking expert guides
- All balcony suite accommodation quoted
- Local Foods and Wines
- Touring as mentioned in itinerary
- Complimentary superior drinks package
- Complimentary WiFi

**DEPOSIT BEFORE 1/31/2025 TO QUALIFY FOR THIS OFFER**

Negotiated at \$300.00PP

CALL/TEXT 1-760-716-1675

[jill.powell@traveledge.com](mailto:jill.powell@traveledge.com)  
[james.ferguson@traveledge.com](mailto:james.ferguson@traveledge.com)



TRAVEL EDGE NETWORK

### ENJOY

- Cruise with friends. Meet new ones.
- Accompanied by a dedicated tour director
- Guided tour around Lyon - *gastronomic epicenter of France*
- Sample delicious wines in Beaune - *wine capital of Burgundy*
- Visit Palace of the Popes in 14th Century Avignon
- Explore the Ardaches Gorges' outstanding landscapes
- Marvel at the Pont du Gard aqueduct
- Visit the iconic Roman amphitheatre in Arles

*STOP and SMELL the lavender!*

ensemble

CST #1006676-10



# AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

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

**Commander**

Carl Schwartz, AP  
(619) 933-9111  
[CarlS1199@yahoo.com](mailto:CarlS1199@yahoo.com)

**Executive Officer**  
(Open)

**Education Officer**  
Steven Bakalis, SN  
(858) 220-2677  
[Steven@sea-hunt.net](mailto:Steven@sea-hunt.net)

**Administrative Officer**  
Peter Oberg  
(858) 883-3735  
[PtOb8@aol.com](mailto:PtOb8@aol.com)

**Secretary**  
Paula Vance, P  
(619) 916-6975  
[VancePaula@gmail.com](mailto:VancePaula@gmail.com)

**Treasurer**  
P/C Carole Hallock, AP  
(619) 316-3312  
[CaroleHallock@hotmail.com](mailto:CaroleHallock@hotmail.com)

**Flag Lieutenant**  
(Open)

**Ass't Education Officer**  
(Open)

**Members-at-Large**  
Allan Bombard, SN-ON  
Jerry Murphy, AP  
Shaun McArdle, AP  
Luis Sepulveda

**Assistant Treasurer**  
Cdr Jerry Murphy, AP  
(847) 890-2470  
[GSMurphy@ix.netcom.com](mailto:GSMurphy@ix.netcom.com)

**Immediate Past CDRs**  
P/C Jerry Murphy, AP  
D/C Doug Bass, SN-ON

**Merit Marks**  
P/C Carole Hallock, AP  
P/C Paula Vance, P

**Rules**  
P/D/C Richard Cross, SN-ON  
P/C Steven Bakalis, SN

**Membership Cte**  
P/C Paula Vance, P (Chr)  
(Open)  
(Open)

**Audit Cte**  
P/C Dave Baer, SN (Chr)  
Carl Schwartz, AP  
Joanne O'Neill

**Nominations**  
P/C Jerry Murphy, AP  
P/D/C Richard Cross, SN-ON  
P/C Shaun McArdle, AP

**Public Relations**  
(Open)

**SWYC Liaison**  
P/C Carole Hallock, AP  
R/C Allan Bombard, SN-ON

**Ass't Admin Officer**  
(Open)

**Ships' Mail Editor**  
R/C Allan Bombard, SN-ON

**Vessel Safety Checks**  
P/C Shaun McArdle, AP (Chr)  
P/C Bob Gibbs, JN-IN  
P/C Bob Gibbs, JN-IN

**Publications**

**Sea Scout Liaison**  
Lt Mike Philbrook, AP  
R/C Allan Bombard, SN-ON (Chr)  
Dave Baer, SN

**Finance Cte**

**Web/IT Support Cte**  
Louis Schwanepeol (Chr)  
Lt Mike Philbrook, AP

**Ships Store/Property**  
(Open)

**Safety Officer**  
(Open)

**San Luis Rey Liaison**  
R/C Allan Bombard, SN-ON

**Law Officer**  
(Open)

**Boating Activities**  
(Open)



**Boat Shows**  
Cdr Carl Schwartz, AP

**Social Media**  
P/C Bob Gibbs, JN-IN

**Sail Fleet**  
P/C Ted Bowler, AP



**Historian**  
Alice Kulikowski

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

