

BAY VIEWS

Volume 29, Number 1
February 2023

America's Boating Club of Saginaw Bay
District 9

www.sbpowersquadron.org

www.d9-usps.org

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www.americasboatingclub.org

AMERICA'S  ATING CLUB 

2022-2023 Bridge		
Commander	P/C Guy Greve, P	989-225-2448
Executive Officer	Lt/C Chris Light, P	989-385-4230
SEO	Lt/C Craig Murchison, AP	989-295-0810
Treasurer	Lt/C Danny Krebs, S	410-279-8339
Secretary	Lt/C Jackie Light, S	989-385-9598
Member at Large	Ken Peterson	989-233-0054
Asst. Treasurer	Lt/C Nancy Greve, P	989-860-0258
Law Officer	P/C William Allsopp, JN	989-860-6885

	SBSPPS Calendar Winter/Spring 2023	
February 24	Change of Watch	6:00pm @SBYC
March 22	Gougeon Brothers Plant Tour, Boat Building Class, & Pizza Dinner	6:00pm @ Gougeon Brothers
April 28/29	SBSPPS hosts the D9 Spring Conference	Doubletree Inn, Bay City
May TBD	Bavarian Belle Riverboat cruise	Frankenmuth
June TBD	Intro to Freedom Boat Works	

Timely Tidbits from Secretary Jackie Light

I hope 2023 is off to a great start for everyone. Although we are not in boating season, Commander Greve and your current bridge continue to plan interesting programs and events to keep you involved and hopefully increase your boating IQ. A crucial part of our success is member involvement. Please check out the following events/programs and RSVP to Cdr. Greve ASAP if you can attend. Thank you.

- **Change of Watch on 2/24. While we plan to celebrate our CoW soon, we are still actively looking for members to step up and join the Bridge/ Executive Committee.** If you have time to help plan next year's Power Squadron meetings and events, please call or e-mail Cdr. Guy Greve. Any current Bridge member can also answer questions about job descriptions and time commitments. Some of our positions/committees require little time, just new ideas and suggestions for future programming.
- **RSVP for Change of Watch ASAP to Cdr. Greve.**
- **On April 28 and 29, our squadron will be hosting the D9 Spring Conference at the Doubletree Inn in Bay City.** While we need volunteers to help us register participants, we also encourage the entire squadron to register and experience the conference for themselves. **Specifically, we need volunteers on Fri. 4/28 from 3:00-6:00pm and on Sat. 4/29 from 8:00-11:00am.** Please consider helping the squadron and meet your fellow Michigan squadron members.
- Rich Spitzer will be offering the **ABC Boating Course on Wed. evenings this spring – beginning on 4/26 and ending on 5/24.** The classes will be held at Bay Landscaping in the conference room. This is a wonderful way to help educate other boaters in the community to safe boating practices. Please encourage family, friends, and acquaintances and help spread the word to anyone who might be interested in the community. A course description and flyer to print and distribute can be found on page 5.
- Our SEO, Craig Murchison, reports that we are still in need of more Vessel Safety Check examiners. The process to become a vessel safety check examiner is quite easy and can be done online. Thank you to those of you who help educate and protect us and our fellow boaters each season. Call or e-mail Craig Murchison if you have any questions about this process. Please consider getting involved if you have time – there is no maximum number of hours or vessel checks one needs to perform.
- Lastly, as we plan our spring schedules with exciting events like a plant tour at Gougeon Brothers and a ride down Frankenmuth's Cass River on the Bavarian Belle Riverboat, please keep in mind friends or acquaintances that might be interested in these events. We always welcome guests and new members to the squadron.



Saginaw Bay Sail and Power Squadron 2023 Change of Watch

Music provided by Cameron Munholland

February 24, 2023 @ 1800 hours

Saginaw Bay Yacht Club
2313 Weadick Hwy, Essexville, MI 48732

*Note: We will be ordering individual dinners from the
SBYC menu so dinner prices will vary.*

RSVP: ggreve@sbcglobal.net
or at cell number (989) 225-2448



OF SAGINAW BAY



Also known as Saginaw Bay Sail and Power Squadron

*****AMERICA'S BOATING COURSE*****

Covering the Fundamentals of Safe Boating, Federal and State Laws, Equipment,
Finding your way, Charts, Adverse Conditions, Communications, Knots/Lines,
and More

******Course qualifies the applicant for the Michigan Boater Certification******

Classes will be held on Wednesday nights from 7-9 pm for five weeks and will
start on Wednesday, **April 26, 2023**

Location: Bay Landscaping

1630 SE Boutell Rd., Essexville, MI

Cost: \$ 40/student including an excellent manual;
\$60/couple sharing manual.

The classroom setting encourages extensive dialog in which the instructor can transfer a great deal of
his boating experience to the student.

Individuals with interest please contact:

Craig Murchison, 989-295-0810, cbmurch2@gmail.com

or

Rich Spitzer, 989-397-7844, rspitzer54@gmail.com



America's Boating Channel

<https://americasboatingchannel.com>

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America's Boating Channel™

Promoting Boater Education to Our Members and the Public

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

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



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



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

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

Available on YouTube, America's Boating Channel offers quick and easy access to professionally produced high-definition safe boating and boater education videos.

[America's Boating Channel™](#) is produced by the United States Power Squadrons® (USPS) under a grant from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund administered by the U.S. Coast Guard.





The Great Loop: Chris and Cheryl's Excellent Adventure

We started America's Great Loop on August 8 from our slip at the Saginaw Bay Yacht Club. Now we are at about the halfway point of our journey as we begin to work our way north along the east coast of Florida. We anticipate returning to SBYC in August/September of this year. We share our adventure on Facebook and invite you to follow us at www.Facebook.com/groups/nauticventure

We have seen many places along the way, some for the first time and others for the first time from the water. We have made new friends and met family members. We have had a lot of 'firsts' that have now become routine. In the spirit of adventure, we try new things that broaden our experience. Being able to share this adventure with each other makes it all the more memorable.

Cheryl credits the Power Squadron courses - America's Boating Course, Boat Handling, and especially Navigation - with giving her the knowledge to be an active First Mate on board Nautic Venture, the Mainship 390 that is our home on this journey.

Our travels continue and we look forward to each new day and what it will bring. There is such a variety of situations we encounter that there is never a dull moment.

From our current location on America's Great Loop onboard Nautic Venture,

Skipper Chris and Cheryl English

And Beaner the boat dog, our favorite traveling companion

Photo: Nautic Venture on Tampa Bay, Jan 2023

Past Commander William Allsopp, JN, recently wrote a series of articles for publication in the Saginaw Bay Yacht Club's Masthead publication. With his permission, the excerpt regarding his experiences with the Saginaw Bay Sail and Power Squadron is included below.



PART FIVE: SBYC & SBPS – Bonded Boaters

- Past Commodore William W. Allsopp

Shortly after I started this series of Masthead articles, I received a letter from the United States Power Squadron (USPS) headquarters. I was again reminded of how long I have been an active boater (and how old I am) and they congratulated and thanked me for being a 50-year member. I initially thought they must be mistaken, or maybe I had become a member when I was 12. They were not mistaken. I did become involved when I was 12 when I took the boater safety class. However, I did not become a member of USPS until I was finishing college 9 years later. The local unit of USPS is the Saginaw Bay Power Squadron (SBPS), and I am very happy to have been involved with SBPS, as well as SBYC, for such a long time.

Some of you may not know what the USPS is. It is your lucky day and I am pleased to let you know. USPS was founded in 1914, through the efforts of two experienced boaters, Roger Upton and Charles F. Chapman. They had determined to establish a much-needed organization to foster safe boating and educate the public regarding safe and legal boating operations. Mr. Chapman wrote the boating “bible,” still being published today, *Piloting Seamanship and Small Boat Handling*. I still have my copy. This nonprofit entity has grown to 45,000 members who participate in 450 local squadrons. It is organized such that each local unit is part of a geographical District, and in turn, the District reports to the National center.

The primary function of the organization is to provide education in boating through a wide range of topics. The basic boating safety course is provided free of charge to the public (small fees to cover costs) by volunteer members of the local unit. Hundreds of thousands of boaters have benefited from this service. In addition, the organization provides many other courses such as seamanship, piloting, navigation, weather, advanced electronics, cruise planning and, yes, engine maintenance (thank you Keith Anderson for letting me take it twice – I am now not *totally* inept). These advanced classes are provided by members for their fellow members.

SBYC members and SBPS share their love for the water and the joy that boating brings us. Of the 70 SBPS commanders, the majority were also SBYC members. Many members have been very active in both organizations. An example includes Craig Murchison, past Commodore of SBYC, past Commander of SBPS, and the current and longtime Chief Education officer of SBPS. He has been responsible for the excellent programs provided to the public and to SBPS

members. Another example is Guy Greve, longtime member of SBYC and a multiple-year Commander of SBPS.

SBYC and SBPS have worked together in many ways. SBYC has been host for the vast majority of dinner meetings held by SBPS. SBPS has voluntarily provided programs for SBYC including CPR classes, boat inspections, weather programs and other programs. I mentioned earlier in my articles the Predicted Log Events that were held years ago. Many of these were joint efforts open to both organizations. Boating classes have been undertaken by many SBYC members and their children, who can utilize this program to get their boating safety certificate.

Activities of SBPS are not limited to education. As mentioned, SBPS provides boat inspections by trained volunteers. SBPS members offer to conduct the inspections at the club. Additionally, SBPS provides monthly programs, often at SBYC, of topics of interest to all boaters, SBPS and SBYC alike. SBPS holds summer events, cook outs, rendezvous and other similar events, too. There are also district and national conferences which hold hospitality rooms so members can meet other like-minded members from all over the country.

I have had the great pleasure of being a SBPS Commander in 1983, following in the footsteps of my father, William E. Allsopp, who was Commander in 1974 (a former SBYC director). I think we are the only father/son Commanders. This experience helped me to correspondingly become an effective board member and Commodore of SBYC (1989 – wow that was a long time ago, too). I did not give up on SBPS and continued to be active teaching the boating class for many years, often at John Glenn High School. I also was active in both the District and National organizations serving on the law committee for each organization and serving as law officer of the local SBPS for many years (fortunately, we did not get in to too much trouble). Once you are involved in either of these organizations, it is hard to let go.

Finally, I will give you a prime example of the boating and personal bond of SBYC and SBPS. Mr. Earl Martin was a very active SBPS member for many years. He served as Commander in 1964. He was actively involved in SBPS teaching and contributing to many SBPS activities. He was often around SBYC and developed many friendships with SBYC members, including my dad, but Earl was not a SBYC member. Sadly, Earl passed away about 1980. Earl had passed along his strong desire to have his ashes scattered in his favorite place – Saginaw Bay. At that time, cremation was rare and, in fact, many discouraged it. A crew of SBYC and SBPS members determined however to grant his wish, and a boat left SBYC with the crew intent on performing the event regardless of their personal beliefs. The crew accomplished the task and drank a toast to their friend. That was a true testament to the bond shared by SBYC and SBPS members. I hope SBPS and SBYC are around for many years continuing to share their love of our favorite pastime.





America's Boating Club®

For Boaters, By Boaters®
District 9



CC Craig Fraser SN-IN

The Saginaw Bay Sail and Power Squadron is fortunate this year to have the District 9 Spring Conference in our own backyard. **The spring conference is going to be held at the Doubletree Inn in Bay City on Friday, April 28th and Saturday, April 29th.** We highly encourage all members of the SBSPS to attend one or more of the informative programs that will be presented and will cover the entrance fee for our members. A full schedule of the program will be sent out to members as soon as it's available. We will also have the USPS Chief Commander, CC Craig Fraser SN-IN, in attendance so please make every effort to join us at some point over the weekend and help promote our squadron. Lastly, the SBSPS has been asked to help host the conference so we are looking for volunteers to help with registration on both Friday (4/28 from 3:00-6:00pm) and on Saturday (4/29 from 8:00-11:00am). Please let Cdr. Guy Greve know if you can help out (ggreve@sbcglobal.net or (989) 225-2448).

Articles and photographs for submission into the Bay Views newsletter should be submitted to the Commander. Photographs may also be submitted to Cindy Sinicki for inclusion on our Facebook Page. Bay Views is published periodically for the members of the Saginaw Bay Sail and Power Squadron located in Bay City, MI. Opinions expressed within do not reflect the opinions of USPS or the SBSPS. Articles may be reprinted without permission if credit is given to the author or SBSPS and Bay Views.

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