

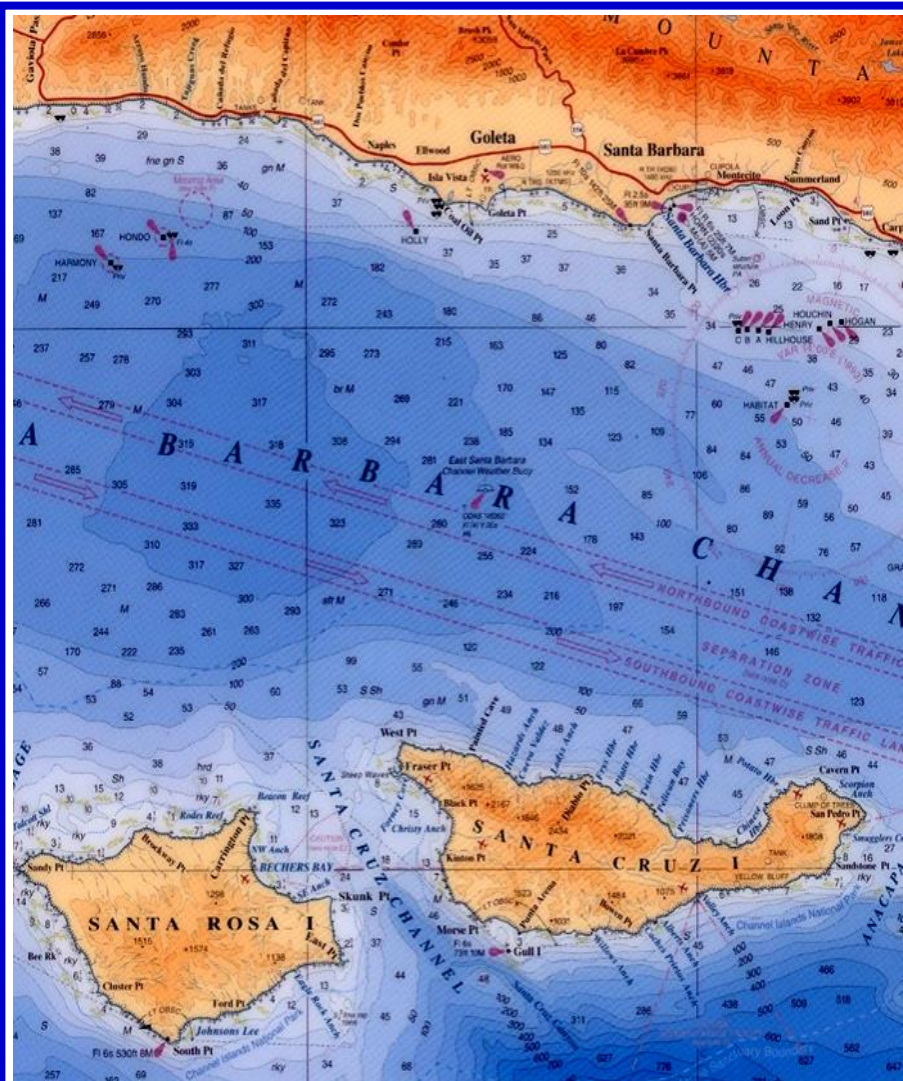
Santa Barbara Sail & Power Squadron



Signal Hoist



Monthly Newsletter, March 2017



Santa Barbara Power Squadron
2810 Glendessary Lane
Santa Barbara, CA 93105-2960

DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY!!!



FRATERNAL
BOATING CLUB

UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS

THE SIGNAL HOIST



United States Power Squadrons®



2017 Calendar of Events

March

- 2 Business Meeting, 7:30pm, Waterfront Classroom
- 5 Star Party Westmont Observatory 7 - 9PM
- 19-23 District 13 Spring Conference & Cruise, Cabrillo Yacht Club
- 25 Ships & Dips. SB Harbor, 3 - 6 PM

April

- 22 Spring Brunch/Meet-the-Members Meeting, Swallings

May

- 6 Harbor Clean-Up/Kayak Adventure & Business Meeting
- 13 Harbor's Nautical Swap-Meet Squadron booth
- 25 Summer Evening Cruise, ~4pm

June

- 1 SoCal300 Race Start, SB to SD, SB Yacht Club
Membership Meeting, Speaker(s) tbd, 7:30pm, Waterfront Classroom
- 10 Rally Just for Fun, ~Noon
- 16-17 Ventura Squadron Cruise to SB, Welcome/Meet-and-Greet host Ventura Squadron
- 29 Summer Evening Cruise, ~4pm

**Cruise locations and dates are subject to weather conditions.
Alternate locations and dates will be considered if weather interferes
with a planned cruise.*

Notice

"The Executive Committee and Member Monthly Business Meeting" Santa Barbara Sail & Power Squadron meets the first Thursday of the month at the **Waterfront Classroom** at 1930. District 13 Council Meetings are usually held on the fourth Thursday of each month, except during March, October and December, **at Cabrillo Beach Yacht Club, 211 W. 22nd Street, San Pedro, CA**. Take the 110 Fwy. South to the Vincent Thomas Bridge/Terminal Island exit. Get in the right lane and take Harbor Blvd. Exit. Turn right on Harbor Blvd. And right on 22nd St. CBYC is the bldg. Past the 22nd St. Landing Restaurant. All Squadron Bridge officers are urged to attend. Squadron members are welcome to participate in District 13 activities. Ride sharing is available.

Contact, Cdr. Susan Hodges,

www.usps.org 805

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845-4149



Cdr. Susan S. Hodges, P

Santa Barbara California



MARCH COMMANDER'S MESSAGE, Cdr. Susan S. Hodges, P

Greetings,

First of all, thank you to all who made the Change of Watch such a nice event—the food, the Yacht Club venue and most importantly, the company were great. Special thanks to P/C Neil Ablitt for his gracious remarks, and to Janis Johnson and Eleanor York for overseeing the evening—and shout out to Ron and Vicki Slocum for another fun Awards Presentation—a great launch to the coming

year!

Emphasizing activities and education, the Executive Committee, spearheaded by Peggy Ciolino and Betty Koch, has prepared a busy calendar of activities, on the water and off, and Rich Ciolino and John Profant are busy outlining classes for the coming several years—we're hoping it's another terrific year for the Squadron!

Coming up first, a **Business Meeting at the Waterfront Classroom on Thursday, March 2, 7pm**. We're doing things a little differently this year—we'll have two types of meetings—Business Meetings for the Executive Committee/Bridge, where we'll plan and sort out issues—a stripped down, probably boring affair for those not on the Bridge—and Members Meetings, where we'll present a guest speaker or activity and refreshments. Members are welcome at both, of course—but we're promising only the Members Meetings will be entertaining. As always, minutes to the meetings will be circulated—you won't miss a thing if you miss a Business Meeting!

Our first activity is the **Star Party at the Westmont Observatory, Sunday, March 5, 7-9pm**. Members of the Santa Barbara Astronomical Unit, amateur and professional enthusiasts alike, will bring telescopes to share viewing of Venus, Mars and a first quarter Moon. We'll set out a few chairs and serve warm refreshments—this event is perfect for all ages—bring the kids, bring the grandkids, bring the neighbor's kids—we're hoping for a good turnout!

Also in **March, on 19th to the 23rd**, the **District is holding the Spring Conference Cruise**. SBSPS will be amply represented by Betty and Tom Koch, whose report we'll look forward to receiving. And on **March 25, Ships & Dips at the Harbor**. We'll start our tour of Squadron boats at 3pm—come for the nosh and stay for the boats!

If you haven't done so, please visit our updated website, sbsps.net—we'll continue to make improvements to the site as we grow our online presence. Congratulations and thanks again to Steve York and Eric Petersen for their good work! All of our events are listed on the site—check out Steve's attractive posting for the **Star Party**, <http://www.sbsps.net/boating-event/star-party-westmont-observatory>.

Hope to see you in March - Cheers!
Susan H

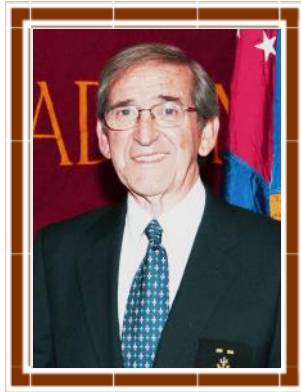
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www.SBSPS.net



United States Power Squadrons®

SEO MARCH MESSAGE Lt/C Richard Ciolino, JN



Lt/C Richard Ciolino, JN

Based on what happened at the Change of Watch last Saturday at the Santa Barbara Yacht Club I apparently agreed to become our new Education Officer, officially titled Squadron Education Officer (SEO) since there are education officers at the District and National levels as well. I'm actually quite pleased to do this. What this means is I'll be trying to continue John Profant's great work of the last three years in bringing our boating education expertise to our squadron members and the general public. Those classes were also responsible for a good number of new members coming into our squadron. Thankfully, John has agreed to stay on as Assistant Education Officer.

We have a Piloting class underway at this time with 23 students including 11 new members, and an Advanced Piloting class planned to start in April. As it turns out I am teaching the Piloting class and John will be teaching the Advanced Piloting class. In the meantime we will be putting together a multi-year plan for our offerings based upon the needs and likes of our squadron members and the boating public. Key to the success of such a plan will be to identify the "needs and likes" of our "customers" and match them to available USPS courses and the educational experience of our instructors. As a squadron we are fortunate to have a solid core group of experienced instructors that can cover a range of important topics as well as experienced members that could be brought into our group of teachers. I will be reporting here on our plan in the coming months so stay tuned.

If you have any questions or suggestions feel free to contact me at rdciolino@cox.net or 805-682-4543. Sail safely!

Santa Barbara California



Santa Barbara Sail and Power Squadron 2017 Change of Watch Dinner AWARD WINNERS

AL LINCOLN AWARD

Given to member who inspiringly leads in class instruction or sets a noteworthy example of instruction.

Awarded to: Steve Hodges, N

COMMANDER'S TROPHY

Given to member in recognition of extraordinary efforts to the Squadron.

Awarded to: Lt/C Janis Johnson, S

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER

Awarded to a member who has provided a valuable service that wouldn't have been done if they didn't do it.

Awarded to: Eric Petersen

POWER BOAT AWARD

Made significant use of his/her power boat

Awarded to: Ed Koke

SAILING AWARD

Made significant use of his/her sailboat

Awarded to: Dennis Johns, AP & Virginia Johns, P



SANTA MARIA AWARD

Recipient deemed to be the most active NEW member.

Awarded to: 1st/Lt Mike Pyzel

BONER AWARD

This is when we memorialize the biggest blunder of the year. Actually something to be proud of - it shows you've been boating. We all make mistakes - the award nominees are just those who have had their witnessed!!

Awarded to: Garrett Osgood, AP



My PLBs and Me By Steve E. Hodges, N

As part of preparation for the Double-Handed Farallones race (out of San Francisco) in March, I checked the stickers on my 12-yr-old personal locator beacon (an ACR PLB-200). Sure enough the NOAA registration was about to expire and the battery expiration date was last August. I easily updated the beacon registration online and then called a local marine electronics company (great place: Oceanaire Electronics/Santa Barbara) to get the battery replaced. I was told they could get the replacement battery within a week, but a rebate program from ACR, meant that for about \$50 more I could get a new PLB, the PLB-375 ResQLink. And the new PLB price was less than half what I paid 12 years ago! The next day I walked in and bought the new PLB. I brought the old one to compare and am amazed how much smaller the new one is, and it has loops so it can easily be strapped to a PFD or harness. But this isn't the reason I typed this story....

As my order was being written up, I (for some reason) decided to test the battery in the old PLB. Well, I did, but not how I expected too! Within a few (3?) minutes my phone rang and I answered the 510 area code number... "This is coast Guard Alameda, we've received a 406 beacon activation from a beacon associated with this number and need to confirm the nature of your distress." (something like that) I explained that the nature of my distress was embarrassment over accidentally activating the PLB and apologized sincerely. The CG caller was pleasant and polite and thanked me for answering my phone promptly, asked me to confirm the beacon UID and then thanked me again – after asking me to make sure the beacon was silenced. I held the off button down until the red indicator stayed dark, and, just as I thought the incident was behind me, my phone rang again, this time a 916 area code: "Hello this is the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services...." Déjà vu all over again, another pleasant and polite caller asking me the nature of my distress.... The second caller did ask different 'security' confirmation questions; my favorites were "Are you near Harbor Way in Santa Barbara?" (I was), and "When did you last register your beacon?" I answered "yesterday." He said "I guess it is you all right. Please make sure the beacon is deactivated."

In less than 10 minutes I learned these lessons: The government response to a 406 MHz beacon activation is fast and professional. The GPS signal encoded in the beacon signal is accurate. The expired battery in my old PLB still works. And I need to put on glasses and read the beacon label—twice—before pushing buttons.

<https://goo.gl/photos/BgMECvIHiiYRe7Q58>



Past/Cdr, Neil Ablitt,

Thank you to all who attended the 2017 Change of Watch and welcomed the new Bridge. It was a lot of fun Susan Hodges our new commander, is bringing a lot of energy and new ideas to benefit the squadron. And I want to thank everyone for the kind words and especially the "Message in a Bottle kit". For those that may have missed it it's a professional bottle to drop in the ocean with an excellent chance of someone finding it. And it just so happens Sue and I are leaving on an extended (big boat) cruise and will be dropping it in either the Pacific or Atlantic Ocean. We haven't decided yet as we are still studying the ocean currents included with the kit. But please be advised we are placing the entire squadron roster inside the bottle. So in the next year or so you receive a strange call concerning your name in a bottle please do not be alarmed.



Bon voyage and thank you again. Neil and Sue

You're invited to SBSPS's annual SHIPS AND DIPS

Progressive Appetizer Party

When: SATURDAY, MARCH 25

Time: 3:00PM — 6:00PM (15:00 — 18:00)

Where: SPECIFIED (TBA) MEMBERS' BOATS AT THE
SANTA BARBARA HARBOR

Dress: Comfortable

Bring: An appetizer or dessert to share and something to drink

We need a few more boats, so if you're interested in showing off sharing your baby boat, please contact either Peggy Ciolino or

Betty Koch: peggiolino@cox.net 682-4543; betty.Koch@gmail.com
968-5568.



Looking Back, AND Ahead . .

By Janis Johnson, S

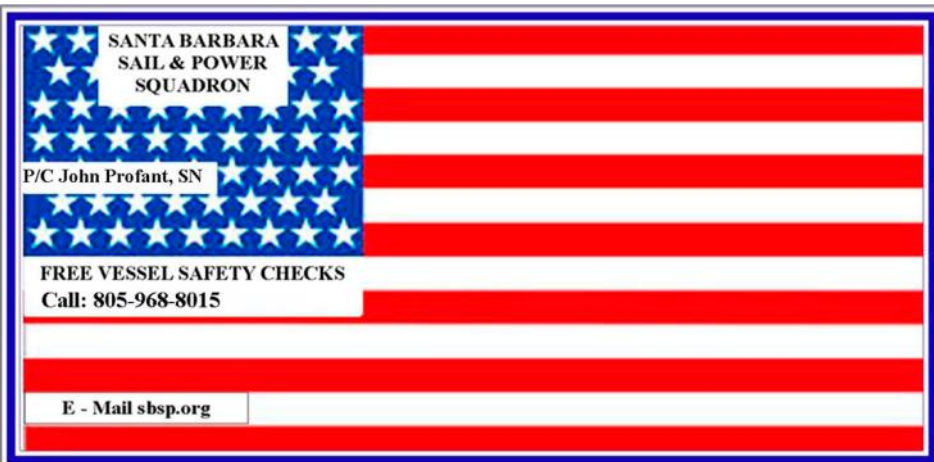
The 2017 Change of Watch emerged in the midst of winter storms to bring sunshine and a stellar evening to 50+ Seafarers and Special Guests at the Santa Barbara Yacht Club. It was super to have the support of many new members, whom we hope to see at upcoming happenings! The Yacht Club food and beverages were fabulous and the service was outstanding!



With a fitting Invocation by Tom Koch, Commander Neil Ablitt led the SBSPS members through the completion of the February 2nd Business Meeting topics, in an entertaining manner, *as always!*

Ron Slocum presented the Awards to all the *extremely deserving individuals* – see the complete wrap up on page #4. A video produced on behalf of the SBSPS CREW was shown, reviewing many of the last two years of activities under the leadership of Commander Neil, showing his creativity, energy—and most of all—FUN! (*Thanks for the Memories, Neil . . .*)

The Nominating Committee and Llad Phillips deserve special acknowledgement for the smooth process of the Installation of Officers, the *new* Bridge. With the introduction of our new Commander, Susan Hodges, the festivities came to a close with the help of Activity Coordinators Peggy Ciolino and Betty Koch, presenting a slide show overview of exciting boating and social activities they are already planning for this year!



Santa Barbara Sail and Power Squadron Change of Watch 02/18/2017

Photos by Lt/C Peggy Ciolino, P. Lt/C Ronald C. Slocum, AP



SBSPS NEW BRIDGE is sworn in by,
District Cdr. LLAD Phillips, SN





Santa Barbara Sail and Power Squadron Change of Watch 02/18/2017

Photos by Lt/C Peggy Ciolino, P. Lt/C . Ronald C. Slocum, AP



Santa Barbara Sail and Power Squadron Change of Watch 02/18/2017

Photos by Lt/C Peggy Ciolino, P. Lt/C Ronald C. Slocum, AP





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Photos by Lt/C Peggy Ciolino, P. Lt/C Ronald C. Slocum,



Santa Barbara California



Santa Barbara Sail and Power Squadron Change of Watch 02/18/2017

Photos by Lt/C Peggy Ciolino, P. Lt/C Ronald C. Slocum, AP





The Fishing Corner

Mud lines are magic. After a winter storm, wily anglers meter along new mud lines looking for anyplace where they intersect structure. Such intersections just may be crowded with foraging fish, such as shallow water rockfish, bass, and small sharks like smoothounds and pinbacks. From the fish's perspective the mud line promises tasty tidbits washed out from shore and the structure offers protection. From the anglers perspective this is a classic case of reading and taking advantage of conditions to find some actively feeding fish close to shore.

A few likely places come to mind. One is Hueneme Canyon. The edge of the muddy water will provide good forage for the resident shallow water rockfish and the steep canyon offers safety. The Ventura River flows strongly during a good rain and puts plenty of food onto the nearshore delta. Fish such as small sharks and bass will scour the area. Another promising spot is the outer part of the reef off of Sandy Point near Carpinteria. The mud line is sure to intersect some structure along this kelp-strewn reef zone.

Longer piers, such as the one at Goleta Beach, extend out past the mud line allowing access for non-boaters. This pier in particular features good kelp growth along its west side as well as rocks piled over a pipe. That is plenty of structure to hold the foraging fish that come in from deeper water.

Tackle choices should be a little different for this type of fishing. Root around your tackle box and pull out anything that resembles a big bug or small rodent. This may be a good time to borrow from your fresh-water tackle box. Be creative, and have some fun. The idea is to drift these offerings along the bottom like they were just washed out from shore and are either fresh-dead or maybe with just a little life left in them. Twitching a pork rind or plastic worm around rocks, kelp, or depressions just may be the hot ticket for catching some mud line monsters.

It is easy to become very engrossed in this kind of fishing and forget to keep an eye on the weather. The Santa Barbara Channel can turn deadly in a heartbeat and this is the time of year to be extra wary. So please keep one eye tuned to the conditions and be ready to run for the harbor.

Mud lines are magic

By: Capt. David Bacon

Visit www.hooklineandshooter.com



Santa Barbara Sail & Power Squadron 2017 - 2018 Executive Committee

Commander	Cdr. Susan Hodges, P	805 698-3298
Executive Officer	Lt/C Peggy Ciolino, P	805 682 4543
Educational Officer	Lt/C Richard Ciolino, JN	805 682 4543
Asst. SEO.	1st Lt. John Profant, SN	805 968 8015
Administrative Officer	Lt/C Betty Koch, P	805 968 5568
Secretary	Lt/C Ronald C. Slocum, AP	805 685 2142
Treasurer	Lt/C Steve York	805 569 5040
Asst. Treasurer	1st Lt. Peter Seagoe, P	805 967 4468

Members at Large	Sue Ablitt, P	1 Year
	P/Lt Janis Johnson, S	2 Years
	Jim Hirsch	3 Years

Auditing Committee	P/C Pernilla Hallstrom, SN	1 Year
	P/C Tom Koch, SN	2 Years

The **SIGNAL HOIST** is the official publication of the **SANTA BARBARA SAIL & POWER SQUADRON**. Articles of interest to the membership should be forwarded in writing to the Editor by the 20th of the month in order to be published in the next issue. We solicit the submission of your articles on safety, cruising stories and member and boating photographs. We encourage articles by our members. Send us your true or tall tales. Articles, opinions and advertisements published herein do not necessarily reflect USPS policy nor endorsement unless so designated

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