

United States Power Squadrons®

"Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the FriendsSM"

TARS & TRIPE



Official Publication of the
Grosse Pointe Power Squadron



GPYC Blessing of the Fleet and Memorial Day Service



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www.gpps-d9.com



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**Is there a subject or topic
you'd like to read about?
Contact your Editor(s):**

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DRESS CODE FOR YACHT CLUB

Family Casual - Dress Pants or
Dress Denim. Dresses or Skirts
for women, if preferred.
Collared shirts. No Tee Shirts,
Baseball Caps or distressed
clothes.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

JUNE 2026

- 10 WED - **Member Appreciation Steak Roast**
Pier Park Picnic Pavilion 6-9pm
- 25 THU - **Great Lakes Water Authority - SOLD OUT**
Tour drinking water facility

JULY 2026

- 11 SAT - **Roadtrip - Tour of National Museum of the Great Lakes**
Toledo

AUGUST 2026

- 7-9 FRI-SUN - **Northport Lobster Bake**
Traverse City
- 15 SAT - **On The Water - Raft-Up Lake St. Clair**
North of Pier Park Point
- 25 TUE - **Detroit Tigers VIP Home Game Experience / Tampa Bay - SOLD OUT**
6:40 pm
- 26 WED - **Executive Board Meeting**
GPYC

SEPTEMBER 2026

- 9 WED - **Diamond Jack Dinner Cruise**
- 17-20 THU-SUN - **Progressive Metro Beach Boat Show**
(Volunteers to staff table)
- 20-27 SUN-SUN - **National Governing Board Meeting**
Cary, North Carolina
- 22 TUE - **Tall Ship Science & Sail - SOLD OUT**
Miliken Marina
- 23 WED - **Executive Board Meeting**
GPYC

OCTOBER 2026

- 14 WED - **General Membership Meeting**
GPYC
- 23 FRI - **Commander's Tea**
Pier Park
- 28 WED - **Executive Board Meeting**
GPYC

Check Website for updates to Calendar
www.gpps-d9.com

Check District-9 Michigan website for other events
www.d9-usps.org



****See www.gpps-d9.com for other Squadrons Activities you are invited to join.**

Note: Refer to the GPPS web site for more details - Unless otherwise posted -

All GPPS General Membership Meetings are on the second Wednesday - Sept. through May

All GPPS Executive Committee Meetings are on the fourth Wednesday - Aug. through May



Commander's Message

Cdr. Cassandra Washington, P

June has arrived, and boating season is officially underway. The docks are active, vessels are moving, and our mission as **America's Boating Club, Grosse Pointe Power Squadron (GPPS)**, is front and center: boating education, safety, fellowship, and service.

During **National Safe Boating Week, May 16 through 22**, GPPS had the opportunity to share that mission with the community at the **Great Lakes Boating Festival at Grosse Pointe Yacht Club (GPYC) on May 16 and 17**. The festival was free and open to the public and featured boats on display, marine products and services, in-water demonstrations, live music, food, family fun, and the opportunity for visitors to "Sip, Shop, Stroll the Docks." Our GPPS booth reflected the best of who we are as a squadron: welcoming, knowledgeable, and committed to helping boaters enjoy the water safely and responsibly. Members welcomed visitors, promoted vessel safety checks, shared boating education resources, emphasized practical habits that save lives, and reminded families that safe boating begins before leaving the dock.

The life jacket message remains especially important. The **Michigan Department of Natural Resources** reminds boaters that among people who drowned in boating-related fatalities, **87% were not wearing a life jacket**. That is why our presence matters. A conversation at a booth, a reminder to wear a life jacket, a vessel safety check, or an invitation to take a boating course are steady actions that build safer habits across the boating community.

Later in the month, I was honored to attend the **GPYC Blessing of the Fleet and Memorial Day service**. It was a beautiful and meaningful gathering, with raised flags, officers in uniform, members standing together, and the marina creating a powerful setting for reflection. The Blessing of the Fleet was a timely reminder that boating season begins with both excitement and responsibility. It calls us to prepare well, respect the water and each other, and honor the maritime traditions that continue to shape our boating community.

The Memorial Day service added a deeper layer of meaning. As we paused in remembrance, I was reminded that the freedoms we enjoy came at a cost. It was a powerful moment to honor those who gave their lives in service to our country.

As we set our course for June, I encourage every member to stay engaged, check your vessel and safety equipment, wear your life jacket, boat responsibly, and invite others to learn with us. Share what you know. You do not have to own a boat to belong to this community. You only need a love for the water, a willingness to learn, and a desire to promote safe, responsible boating for all.

Have fun. Be safe on the water. Stay connected. May this boating season be blessed, memorable, and guided by fair winds ahead.

See you on the water,

Cassandra Washington
Commander, GPPS





Education Officer
Lt/C Chester Dunbar Jr., AP

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB
GROSSE POINTE POWER SQUADRON

YOU'RE INVITED!

FREE

KNOTS, BENDS & HITCHES CLASS

LEARN ESSENTIAL KNOTS.
BUILD CONFIDENCE. STAY SAFE.

DATE: July 27, 2026

TIME: 7:00 PM

LOCATION: Grosse Pointe Yacht Club

FREE ADMISSION!

HANDS-ON LEARNING
PRACTICAL & FUN!

PERFECT FOR BOATERS OF ALL
EXPERIENCE LEVELS
BEGINNERS WELCOME!

IMPROVE YOUR SKILLS
BE PREPARED
ON THE WATER

TAKE HOME VALUABLE
KNOWLEDGE
USE IT FOR LIFE!

★ BRING THIS COUPON TO ENJOY A **FREE** ★
HANDS-ON CLASS AND MASTER ESSENTIAL KNOTS!

★ PLEASE RSVP 313-744-7472 ★



Executive Officer
Lt/C Lisa Nieves, AP

District 9 Gross Pointe: New Vessel Safety Check Examiner - Lt/C Lisa Nieves, AP

I am extremely proud and honored to serve as a Vessel Safety Check Examiner for America's Boating Club, Grosse Pointe. Becoming a Vessel Safety Examiner was not an easy accomplishment, the testing and training were challenging and required dedication, focus, and extensive studying. Through ambition, perseverance, and a true passion for boating safety, I successfully achieved this important goal.

Boating safety is something I care deeply about, and I am proud to play a role in helping keep our boating community safe, educated, and prepared on the water. This achievement represents not only personal growth, but also my commitment to service, leadership, and continuing education within the boating community. I look forward to helping promote safe and enjoyable boating for everyone.

Why Vessel Safety Checks Matter

A Vessel Safety Check is a valuable service designed to help boaters enjoy a safer and more enjoyable experience on the water. The purpose of a safety check is not to find fault, issue citations, or take enforcement action. Instead, it provides boat owners with helpful information and recommendations to ensure their vessel is equipped and prepared for emergencies.

Vessel Safety Checks are completely voluntary and conducted in a friendly, educational manner. Examiners review safety equipment and discuss best practices that can help protect you, your passengers, and other boaters.

The check helps identify items that may need attention before an emergency occurs or before a boarding by the United States Coast Guard or other law enforcement agency. By addressing potential issues ahead of time, boaters can have greater confidence and peace of mind while enjoying their time on the water.

Remember, a Vessel Safety Check is not a test and is not intended to be punitive. It is simply an opportunity to receive suggestions and guidance that promote safe boating. The goal is education, preparedness, and helping everyone return safely to shore.

Safe boating begins with preparation, and a Vessel Safety Check is one of the easiest ways to make sure you are ready for whatever the day may bring.





Administrative Officer *Lt/C Ken Owens, P*

Thank You ABC/Detroit Power Squadron

I personally want to thank the Detroit Power Squadron for inviting our squadron and other D9 squadrons to their flare demonstration class on Belle Isle at the Detroit Yacht Club. It takes quite a bit of coordination to get clearance from the US Coast Guard, and the local police and fire authorities to hold this class. For all the years I have been boating, this was the first time that I actually lit an emergency flare. We even were able to shoot off a flare gun into the sky. The safety component of the class was outstanding.

Collaboration and networking between squadrons is a goal we are all working on. Our squadron will return the favor by inviting others to several of our upcoming events. It is fun to get together in the spirit of boating education and fellowship.

Attending this event from our squadron along with myself were: Lt/C Gaylynne Giliberto, our Fleet Surgeon Lt Dr. James Giliberto, R/C Bill Stano, and Lt Angela Hearn.



Dr. James Giliberto, Gaylynne Giliberto, Ken Owens



Secretary Officer *Lt/C Gaylynne Giliberto, AP*

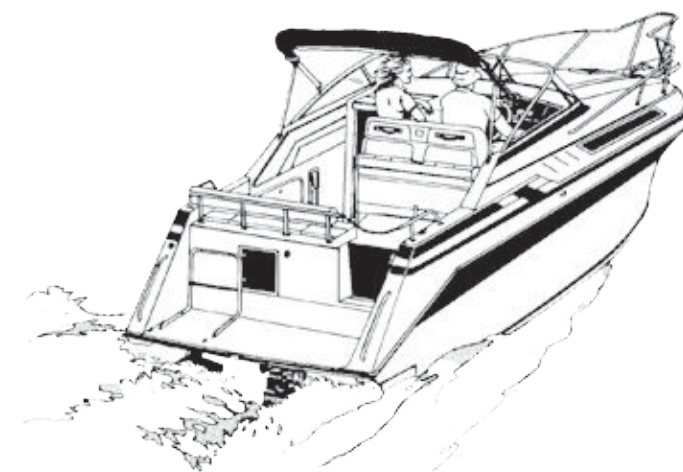
School's Out for Summer!

Michiganders feel a special kind of joy when launching their boats after the long, cold winter months. There's something energizing about the sun rising over the horizon, bringing warmth and calm waters with it. We eagerly make plans with family and friends — day outings, weekend getaways, and adventures exploring the magnificent waters that surround our great state.

But let's not forget those who are new to boating. You've seen them — the newcomers at your marina. Take a moment to introduce yourself, strike up a conversation, and get a sense of their boating experience and skill level. That simple gesture opens the door to sharing valuable knowledge, offering helpful tips, and pointing them toward the best spots on the water — as well as the ones to avoid. Your firsthand experience is more valuable than any guidebook.

Most importantly, think about how a new friendship at the marina can make a real difference in water safety. Talk to both new and seasoned boaters about the benefits of a vessel safety check. Share information about the Grosse Pointe Power Squadron — the courses we offer, the online seminars available, and above all, the many rewards of becoming a member.

As relatively new members ourselves, my husband and I can speak firsthand to the value we've gained from taking boating courses, continuing our education, and joining the GPPS. So, while school may be out for the summer, the learning never really stops — and that ongoing commitment to knowledge is what makes our time on the water safer, richer, and filled with memories that last a lifetime.





June Birthdays

Theodore H. Smith
Dan Claus
Howard E. Riley, Jr.

Virginia Carstarphen
James A. Anderson
John Simon, Jr.

July Birthdays

Chester Dunbar, III
Lawrence E. Briski
Natalie L. Dunbar
Ronald A. Schaupeter

Reanna S. Washington
Leslie L. Leitch
Todd Hyatt

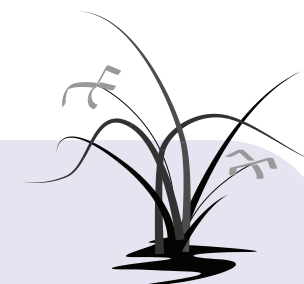
In Memoriam

Lt Charles E. (Ched) Fine, SN

Senior Navigator, Lt Charles (Ched) Fine was a long time member of the Grosse Pointe Power Squadron and taught celestial navigation. He was a Life Member with 29 Merit Marks. He passed away August 30, 2025.

His memorial service will be at the Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church 11:00am on Saturday, June 13th.

Any special notes can be directed to his daughter Charlene Gulas at charlenegulas@att.net.





**TOUR THE DRINKING WATER FACILITY
THURSDAY, JUNE 25 @ 10:00AM**

**GREAT LAKES WATER AUTHORITY
WATER WORKS PARK**
(NEXT TO SINDBADS & ROOSTERTAIL)

Join us on this educational free tour.

Photo ID and safety waivers must be completed ahead of time for security clearance.

We will learn all the science behind purifying the water our boats travel on.

A rare and exciting behind-the-scenes look at a vital resource to Southeastern Michigan!

WE ONLY HAVE 20 SPOTS SO RSVP
GPPSNEWS@GMAIL.COM

Learn how they make Detroit River
water safe for us to drink!



FSPS East Tawas Rendezvous
RSVP by June 15th
810-513-3203

June 26-28, 2026
Dinner out Friday at 7:00!
Hot Dog Roast on Saturday at the beach at 1:00!
Dinner out Saturday at 7:00!

\$ 20.00 per person and don't forget your donation for the Basket of Cheer!!



Grand Traverse Bay

LOBSTER BAKE

August 7-8

Save the Date for the 2026 Lobster Bake

It starts on Friday with Happy Hour at 5:00 and a picnic dinner at 6:00

Saturday is the big Lobster Bake
Watch our talented chefs cook lobster in a huge pan
over an open wood fire.

Slip reservations on DNR website
<https://midnrreservations.com>

or call

G. Marsten Dame Marina, Northport 231-386-5411
Mention our event

Make your hotel reservations soon!
Traverse City area is very busy in the summer



Life Jacket Loaner Program for Kids!

...Offered by Boat US and the Grosse Pointe Power Squadron, since 1997

The Boat US loaner program is designed to help boaters comply with state law requiring children under 6 years old to wear either a Type I or Type II life jacket while on an open deck.

A boating family can go to a participating marina and borrow a life jacket, free of charge, for short-term use. Three different size jackets are available: infant, small child, and youth. Now available-- adult life jackets.

Where can I go to borrow a life jacket?

Duffy's Landing at Belle Maer Harbor
41700 Conger Bay Drive
Harrison Twp, MI 48045
586-468-1630

Ken's Marine at Michigan Harbor
24600 Jefferson, St Clair Shores MI 48080
586-775-9274



Lt. Jane Ellis, AP, Boat Safety Officer

***GPPS at Great Lakes Boating Festival
National Safe Boating Week***



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Photos by Lisa Nieves and Rose Stano*

GPYC Blessing of the Fleet and Memorial Day Service



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**ABC/Detroit Power Squadron
Flare Demonstration Class**



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**Congratulations Angela Hern
New Vessel Safety Examiner - Grosse Pointe**



**A Special Thanks for Helping us meet our goal:
Ken Owens, Chet Dunbar, Bill and Rose Stano.**

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Photos by Lisa Nieves and Rose Stano*



TRADER TODD'S MARINA

Open House At the Clubhouse

Light Brunch at 10:00AM

Blessing of the Fleet at 11:00AM

**Vessel Safety Checks & Barbecue
After Blessing of the Fleet**

Saturday, June Thirteenth

EXCLUSIVE MEMBER DISCOUNT

10% OFF DOCKAGE

TRADER TODD'S MARINA

Location: 24030 E. Jefferson Ave
St. Clair Shores, MI 48080
Contact: (586, 776-5650 | tradertoddsmarina@gmail.com

Terms & Conditions:

- Must present a valid GPPS Membership Card
- Offer cannot be combined with other discounts or seasonal promotions.
- Valid for the 2026 Season.

Anchor Bay Yachting Association

SAFETY, CHARITY & EDUCATION
"Working together for the good of the boating community"

NOF

NOBLE ODYSSEY FOUNDATION

**Inland Seas
EDUCATION ASSOCIATION**

DAN BOATER

February 2023
Dan Boater will now be managed by Dan Boater and not USPS.

Dan Boater will send out email to your registered email with information on renewal when needed. New rate will increase but will be discounted from the \$100.00 rate.

For more information call 919-490-2011 or <https://danboater.org>

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Chamber of Commerce**

Member Savings Available

<https://grossepointechamber.com>
Look for Member - Member to Member Savings - Member Discount Program



GROSSE POINTE POWER SQUADRON

EDITOR

P/D/C Chet Dunbar, AP



Grosse Pointe

