

# Anchorage

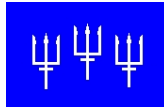
Official Publication of the  
**Anchor Bay Power Squadron**  
A unit of the United States Power Squadrons®

Jan/Feb 2011

Vol 38, No 1

## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

*Cdr Jan Gawel, S*



I hope everyone survived the holidays and I wish everyone a happy and healthy new year. I'm looking forward to the New Year and my new position as your commander. It's really frightening not knowing what to expect on how this New Year will turn out. As with any leadership position I realize you can't please everyone all the time.

I will do my best as your new commander and try to make this an exciting and fun year. But, I will need your need, because I believe to make this year fun and exciting it will involve each and every one of us. From the ones who have 25 years or more, right down to the newbies. I also want you to know, I'm open to any and all ideas, especially ideas on increasing our membership.

Remember this is our squadron. One we should take great pride in. That is why this year my commanders ball is entitled; "American Pride." No one person can do all that is necessary to make this squadron all that it can and will be.

God Bless All of You,

*Cdr Jan*



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**Note:** Articles for publication must be received by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month so they can be published and circulated by the 25<sup>th</sup>.

## Calendar

### Feb 2011

16 Membership Meeting

### Mar 2011

25-27 D9 Spring Conference

**Have fun by Participating in your Squadron.**



Hello safe boaters, scoundrels and scalawags:

This is the last Anchor Bay Power Squadron Administrative Officers Report coming from Capt. Gary (no longer "The Gimp"). By the time you read this ABPS Change Of Watch will have occurred and your new Bridge will be serving you from the front of the room.

Hopefully you read my Annual Report and had as much fun with it as I did. Now it is time to get somewhat serious – or at least as serious as I can get.

ABPS added a few new members last year: Candy DeWitt and Edwin Hoover were "certificated" as P/C Mike James once put it during the last boating season. Welcome to our fold Candy and Ed!

We also held some rather significant fund raiser events resulting in nearly \$1100 being added to our coffers for various projects and initiatives. Coffee sales were over \$500, the can and bottle fund nearly \$150 (thanks to all of you that enjoy beverages from small round containers!) plus 50/50 earnings and the Garage Sale that was a tremendous success, too! THANK YOU TO ALL THAT PARTICIPATED TO THESE EVENTS!

Unfortunately, I am not able to put together the ShipWreck Festival trip like I did last year. However, if you would like to go the following URL can get you much of the information you need: <http://www.shipwreckfestival.org/> you can check out this year's offerings and buy tickets online saving yourself some time and a few dollars. Groups are encouraged. If you have 10 or more going please let me know and I will try to arrange for a group discount by contacting the promoter in advance. Sorry, groups of less than 10 must pay full price. The folks that went last year had a great time and spoke very highly of it.

We are still in need of volunteers for the USPS Booth at the COBO Hall Boat Show. This year ABPS date is 2/13/11 which is the FIRST Sunday of the show instead of the last Sunday. The time slots available are (show opening) 11:00 – 13:00, 13:00 – 15:00 & 15:00 – 18:00 (show close for the day). If you are interested please contact me via email at [gkowalczyk10@comcast.net](mailto:gkowalczyk10@comcast.net) or via my cell phone 586.438.7299.

ABPS has a limited supply of new burgees for the great price of \$15 ea. Please see that good lookin' guy Ken Radjewski if you want one before they are all gone. I will be getting one to replace my old and dirty one and to show it off come next boating season!

Remember my question from way back in November last year?? Here it is again: You are on the River at night and you see a boat's navigation lights. They are RED on the Port, GREEN on the Starboard and TWO WHITE Lights in a row at the masthead with a WHITE and YELLOW light at the stern. This vessel is A) Restricted in it's ability to maneuver B) Towing something behind C) Pushing something ahead or along side D) At anchor waiting for assistance.

Thought about it for a while? Looked it up in your trusty old Chapman's? (Do you even have a Chapman's?) If your boat is more than 39.3 feet in length (10 meters) you are required to have a copy of the USCG Navigation Rules (COLREGS) on board. You can also find the answer in there. For the rest of you here it is: A vessel with that lighting configuration is TOWING SOMETHING BEHIND. It may be a barge or it may be a box of tissue. Either way if you see something like this give it a wide berth and WATCH BEHIND IT FOR AN OBJECT. The object will also have to have at least a single white light on it visible 360 deg. and it also may be illuminated with a spotlight, but if I gave you that information too I would have given the answer away. Ain't learnin' FUN? Story problems in high school were never like this, were they?

We're gonna stay on the river for our next question: You are in your power driven vessel, motoring downbound with the current, enjoying the day. In the distance in front of you is a sailboat tacking across the river using only his sail to make way up river. In doing so the sailboat is crossing the river in nearly right angles to the current. Since the wind is blowing across his starboard and port sides (depending on his current tack) he has either a starboard (wind blowing across the port side) or port tack (wind blowing across the starboard side), depending on which way he is crossing from. When you approach the sailboat on the river who has the right of way??: A) the sailboat, but only when he has a starboard tack B) the sailboat, but only when he has a port tack C) the powerboat as long as he is stays in the channel D) the sailboat because they always have the right of way no matter what.

The answer will be in the next issue of Capt. Gary's Quiz Time Handbook or the next Anchorage, whichever gets published first.

Until next time, please get in touch with your ABPS Bridge Officers and volunteer to assist with something. You might be pleasantly surprised at how much fun it can be to work with new people toward a common goal and actually accomplish it!

FLAGS UP!!!

*Capt. Gary*



Joanne and I thank you for your prayers, flowers, food, and support during her recovery after heart surgery. The people are what makes it so good to be a member of this squadron. Thank you.

We have a boating course scheduled for 5 weeks starting 28 Feb 2011. It will be at the Chesterfield Fire Station on 23 Mile Rd and Baker. The classes start at 7:00 PM each week. Promoting safe boating is the reason we were chartered. Help fill this class by spreading the word.

After the boating class is finished, we will hold a couple of 2 hour seminars. If you have a seminar preference, please let me know.

This is your squadron. The bridge is here to serve you. Let's make this squadron the best it can be.

*Mike*

## Help Keep Our Waters Clean

### 1. Human Contamination:

Use the local onshore bath facilities as much as possible and bring portable toilets ashore for proper waste disposal. Just like lawn fertilizers and manure, human waste contains nutrients which can unnaturally stimulate algae growth and deplete the amount of oxygen in the water. Human sewage can be a significant source of life threatening bacteria in waters with high boat densities. The primary concern of sewage in the water is its potential for carrying disease causing pathogens to swimmers and shellfish.

### 2. Engine Contamination:

Oil spills are not confined to the well publicized disasters involving giant oil tankers or pipe-lines. The fact is that any engine can leak oil and gasoline and this discharge is illegal and extremely harmful to the environment. A single quart of oil can pollute an area equivalent to three football fields of water surface. If you do spill fuel or oil into the water **DO NOT DISPERSE IT WITH DETERGENT OR SOAP**. This only sends the problem down to the seafloor where it becomes more toxic and more difficult to clean up.

### 3. Garbage Contamination:

Never discard your garbage overboard. Whatever you take aboard, bring back. Plastic bags and containers have made our lives a lot easier, but when thrown overboard they will probably outlive us by 100 years and seriously add to water pollution. Plastics can foul propellers and clog seawater intakes on boats, causing engine overheating. **Marpol** laws now make it a federal offense to pollute our waters with plastics and other contaminating substances.

### 4. Cleanser Contamination:

The word **CLEANSER** would lead you to believe that a cleaning solution would help to keep our waters clean. Just the opposite may be the case. Most detergents contain toxic ingredients such as chlorine, phosphates and ammonia, which are extremely harmful to plant and aquatic animal life. If you must use soaps and cleaning products, make sure to purchase the least toxic product to do the job. Look for the words, "Phosphate-free" and "Biodegradable" on the product label. Help keep our waters clean.

**THE MARPOL TREATY AGREEMENT** makes it illegal to dump plastic in any waters. It also makes it illegal to dump the following materials in U.S. Lakes, Rivers, Bays, Sounds and up to 1 mile offshore: Garbage-Glass-Food-Rags-Paper-Metal-Dunnage and Crockery anywhere. Each violation of these requirements may result in civil penalty up to \$25,000, a fine up to \$50,000 and imprisonment up to 5 years.

From your Safety Officer-P/C Danny Woody

## P/C Andy's Year End Report

Hello Fellow Members,

I have bitter sweet feelings while writing my last commander's report for the Anchorage; it has been a very productive year for me and the squadron. As I reflect on the past year, I can happily say that I thoroughly enjoyed being your commander for 2010.

Some of the highlights that I'll cherish for a long time are as follows:

- The change of watch (which was well attended and quite nice),
- Spring boat show at Cobo Hall (worked the booth),
- Blessing of the fleet and ABPS Burgee blessing (Mariner's Church Detroit),
- The ABPS commanders ball (Margaritaville - a fabulous evening for sure),
- Some of the neighboring squadrons commander's balls (Detroit, Wyandotte and Flint),
- A Spring District 9 Council meeting and luncheon,
- Spring Conference Hospitality room (Joanne pulled off in style with very little money),
- All of our rendezvous' by boat or auto (St. Clair, Weber's Island, Bar B Q behind my boat in St. Clair Shores, Windsor Marina, Frost Bite at Metro beach),
- An impromptu visit to Put in Bay (with a few squadron members),
- Fall boat show at Metro beach,
- Some Vessel Safety Check outings,
- A Fall District 9 Council meeting/luncheon,
- Fall joint D/9-D29 Conference, (good showing by our squadron members),
- A bunch of fun fundraisers (Garage sale, candy and coffee sales, bottle and can returns). A Great Lakes ship wreck tour by auto which also was a good fundraiser,
- A lot of E-board and General membership meetings (with a few special meetings for our budget, our squadron rendezvous' and activities committees),

A Christmas party at Cedar Glen Country club (well attend and very magical).

*I'm so proud and honored to have been a part of the above activities. Thanks to all of you that helped make this past year so memorable. I have a long list of members that I'll personally thank for their efforts to help make the Anchor Bay Power Squadron a success.*

Regards,

P/C Andy

