

- Presenter notes - Spend a few minutes talking to potential members in your public Boating classes about local squadron and USPS History.
- USPS History -

The United States Power Squadrons, USPS, - America's largest and oldest nonprofit recreational boating organization, celebrated its 90th Anniversary in 2004. Since it was founded at the Boston Yacht Club in 1912 and chartered as a national organization at the New York Yacht Club in 1914, USPS has grown to include more than 60,000 members in some 450 squadrons in the United States, Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands and Japan. USPS also assisted in the formation of the Canadian Sail & Power Squadrons which has 35,000 members. Boat ownership is not a requirement of membership. USPS member vessels include sail, power, Personal Watercraft, kayaks, canoes, and Inflatables. Several times each year local squadrons offer approximately 40,000 men, women, and youngsters, basic public Boating courses.
- Have copies of local squadron newsletter, USPS National magazine, The ENSIGN, sample course materials, and a photo display available prior to and following presentation.



Member Benefits

"USPS - A Network of Friends and Family".

- ENJOY friendship and camaraderie with other boaters
 - Family Fun*
 - Youth Activities*

- GAIN Boating experience from Squadron sponsored activities
 - Port Captains*
 - Skipper Saver Program*
 - Vessel Safety Check*

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- USPS, is the largest non-profit boating education organization in the world.
- As a member, your commitment and participation, supports and sustains the educational objectives of this organization: education of the boating public, fun, safe family boating activities and a commitment to civic service to make it safer on the waterways of the United States.

- The USPS Skipper Saver course teaches first mates what to do in emergencies.

Expand Boating Knowledge

- Seamanship
- Piloting
- Advanced Piloting
- Junior Navigation
- Navigation

- Engine Maintenance
- Marine Electronics
- Cruise Planning
- Sail
- Weather

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Experienced instructors teach courses on Seamanship, Piloting and Position Finding, Celestial Navigation, Marine Electronics, Weather, Sailing, Engine Maintenance, Cruise Planning and much more.

More than 20 self-study and video courses are available on a variety of subject such as GPS, Radar, Oceanography, Boat Insurance and Navigational Astronomy.

Successful completions of the Squadron Boating Course meets the educational requirements for boat operation in all 50 states.

Seamanship - Builds on the basics of recreational boating presented in the public boating courses. Seamanship adds foundational information for continuing boater education. The course contents facilitates knowledge development for increased safe operation of recreational boats and provides the basis for completion of USCG licensing examination. Emphasis within the course has been placed on higher level boating skills, rules of the road, and marlinspike.



Opportunities for Fun



On-water Activities

- Cruises
- Rendezvous



Social Events

- Potluck dinners
- Picnics
- Parties
- Meetings
- Guest Speakers

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- USPS members enjoy friendships and camaraderie on the water and off with fellow members who are skilled in boating.
- On-the-water activities include cruises, rendezvous, sail races, navigation contests, fishing derbies, raft-ups, predicted log contests and more.
- Activities ashore include marine programs, parties, picnics and educational programs.
- Members meet and work with fellow members throughout the USA, Canada, Puerto Rico, Japan and the Virgin Islands.



Community Service

- ⚓ **Public Boating Classes**
- ⚓ **Educational Seminars – USPS University**
- ⚓ **Educational Cruises**
- ⚓ **Cooperative Charting**
- ⚓ **Environmental Programs - Squadron Level**
- ⚓ **Homeland Security – Boat Responsibly**

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- USPS squadrons offer boating safety courses for the public several times a year
- USPS members help the National Ocean Service keep nautical charts accurate and save taxpayers millions of dollars each year by reporting chart corrections.



Members Helping Members

Port Captain Program

- Provides members with travel & local information when traveling in unfamiliar waters.
- Your 'On-Star' provider when you are cruising.

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USPS Port Captains assist visiting members with local knowledge about cruise planning, water and weather conditions, anchorages, marinas and other helpful information.



Supports Safer Family Boating

Vessel Safety Check Program

- Free Program
 - Assists boaters in complying with federal and state recreational boating laws and regulations.

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- USPS is an active partner with the US Coast Guard Auxiliary in conducting Vessel Safety Checks – a voluntary boat examination to verify the presence and operable condition of certain safety equipment required by state and federal regulations.
- The VSC Program helps to achieve voluntary compliance with federal and state recreational boating safety laws, particularly with regard to the carriage of safety equipment while raising boater awareness about safety issues through voluntary contact by a Vessel Examiner (VE).
- VE discussions with recreational boaters is designed to motivate maintaining and operating their boats in a safe manner, taking boating safety courses to increase their knowledge and skills in boating, and promoting safe boating.
- Utilize the VSC program for community outreach and local community networking. This is another excellent opportunity to reach potential students for Boating Classes.

Involve Youth



- ⚓ Youth web site at www.USPS4kids.org
- ⚓ Kids Crew Program
- ⚓ Youth Activity Poster Contest
- ⚓ Water Safety Kids Games
- ⚓ Youth Program Partners such as BSA-Sea Scouts

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- USPS has partnered with the Sea Scouts/BSA to further enhance youth involvement in safe boating and to sponsor ships and educational programs.
- USPS is lead developer of WaterSmartSM, from the Start, computer-learning tool funded by the USCG Office of Boating Safety and the National Safe Boating Toolchest for Kids project.



Special Organizational Discounts

✓ **Save money with your USPS membership**

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USPS Boat Insurance

- ✓ USPS & St Paul Travelers have teamed up to give most USPS members special discounts on their boat insurance.
- ✓ But that's just the beginning...
- ✓ Successful completion of each of your first six USPS educational courses entitles you to an additional 2 1/2% insurance discount for each course you complete.
- ✓ Add a Vessel Safety Examination, and you'll get an additional 3% off your insurance.

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After you take that first boating course with USPS, and decide to become one of us, you are entitled to the good price offered by St Paul to our members.



BoatU.S.

- 50% Off BoatU.S. Membership Fees
- First year is *FREE* !!!

- Benefits of joining BoatU.S. :
 1. merchandise discount
 2. towing service discount
 3. boat insurance

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Through a partnering arrangement with BoatU.S., members of the United States Power Squadrons enjoy a 50% discount in the membership dues to that organization.

West Marine Offers Discounts for VSCs

- ✓ **10% discount** for boaters who have a Vessel Safety Check (VSC).
- ✓ The discount coupon will be issued by the Vessel Examiner at the completion of the VSC.
- ✓ Entitled to the discount regardless of whether you pass or fail the VSC.
- ✓ The discount rewards boaters for the educational experience they receive, since all Vessel Examiners discuss a number of safety topics during each check.

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✓ West Marine offers a **10% discount** for boaters who have a Vessel Safety Check (VSC).

✓ The discount coupon will be issued by the Vessel Examiner at the completion of the VSC.

✓ Entitled to the discount regardless of whether they pass or fail the VSC.

✓ The discount rewards boaters for the educational experience they receive, since all Vessel Examiners discuss a number of safety topics during each check.



BoatU.S. Towing Insurance

- ❖ Through a partnering arrangement with BoatU.S.,
- ❖ USPS members enjoy a 10% discount off the cost of emergency towing insurance.

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Through a partnering arrangement with BoatU.S., members of the United States Power Squadrons enjoy a 10% discount off the cost of emergency towing insurance.



Soundings

- 28% Off the normal subscription price to Soundings Magazine
- Soundings refers to itself as “The Nation's Boating Newspaper”.

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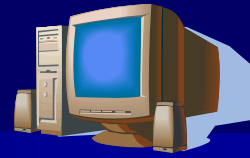
•Many boaters subscribe to this excellent publication. USPS members can purchase this magazine at 28% off the regular price.

•Soundings subscription – 2008

12 issues

Cover Rate: \$24.97

Dell Computer

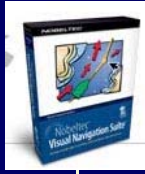


- ➔ **USPS members are eligible for a 2-6% up to 12% discount through Dell's Member Program.**

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Nobeltec Navigation Software and Vector Charts

- Producer of the worlds best navigation software and vector charts
- 25% discount on all direct purchases of software and data (charts, etc) to USPS members .

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Nobeltec, the producer of the worlds best navigation software and vector charts will offer to USPS members a 25% discount on all direct purchases of software and data (charts, etc.).



MAPTECH

- USPS is also partnered with Maptech.
- USPS members can purchase Maptech products at dealer cost.

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➤ USPS is also partnered with Maptech, a name familiar to many boaters. Through this agreement, USPS members can purchase any Maptech product at dealer cost - a substantial savings over store prices.



GPS for Mariners

- *GPS for Mariners* - Filled with helpful illustrations and hands-on examples.
- This complete and practical guide shows you how to:
 - Become an informed GPS buyer and user
 - Connect GPS to your computer, autopilot, and radar
 - Navigate with GPS using waypoints and routes

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GPS for Mariners summarizes essential global positioning system concepts, explains the buttons, screens, and menus of your GPS receiver, and answers all your questions. Filled with helpful illustrations and hands-on examples, this complete and practical guide shows you how to:

Become an informed GPS buyer and user

Connect GPS to your computer, autopilot, and radar

Navigate with GPS using waypoints and routes

ADD IT ALL UP

▶ ***CAN YOU
AFFORD NOT TO
JOIN USPS®?***



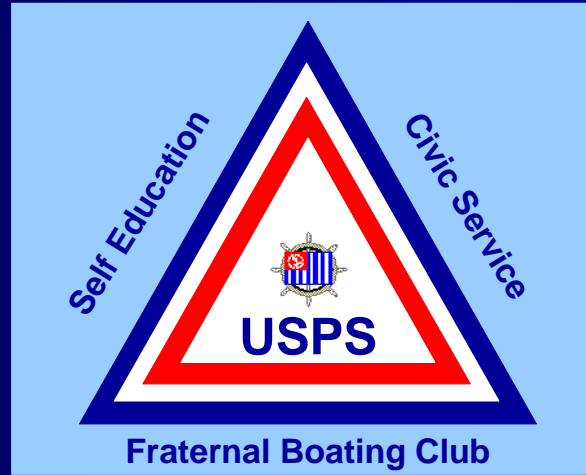
<http://www.usps.org>

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Welcome Aboard



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