



**This title page provides an opportunity for the presenter to introduce him or herself (for a live presentation) and explain the purpose of the slide show. Note that during the slide show, the slides must be advanced manually.**

Suggested Script:

“Boating is one of the most popular recreational activities in America. Approximately one in every 10 families participates in recreational boating. Whether you are interested in power, paddle or sail, small boats or large, there is an organization that can provide you with the information that you need to do it better and the education that you need to do it more responsibly.”

## Notes / Comments

- This slide is hidden:
- Target audience – general public, adults & youths
- Theme – explain what USPS offers to all members.
- Customize these charts to fit your local course. **MAKE SURE THE CHARTS ON FEES ARE CURRENT AND REFLECT YOUR SQUADRON'S RATES.**





Welcome to USPS. You are invited to joined (*when given by a local presenter, include the name of the local squadron, and include the phrase “a unit of...”*) United States Power Squadrons, the nation’s pre-eminent boating education organization. Your membership opens up to you a broad range of opportunities to develop and sharpen your boating skills, to become involved in USPS civic service activities, and to have lots of fun in the company of a growing family of like-minded people. These opportunities don’t require a great deal of time or effort. All you need is a willingness to actively participate in your squadron’s programs and activities.

The information in this short introduction will help you to get started on your USPS adventure. It will provide you with a basic understanding of USPS and your local squadron. You will learn:

- who we are
- what we do
- how we are organized
- what opportunities and benefits are available to you as a member

You will learn a great deal more about USPS over time through your continuing participation in classes and other squadron activities. Don’t hesitate to ask any of the squadron members present today, or anytime you need help to understand something about USPS or your local squadron. As with so many new members in the past, we are confident that you will discover that USPS offers a rich return on the investment of your time.



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**Benefit From Our Long Experience**

**USPS WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1914**

**WE HAVE PROVIDED BOATING  
SAFETY EDUCATION FOR OVER  
90 YEARS**

**WE PROMOTE ALL ASPECTS OF BOATING  
SAFETY THROUGH OUR OWN INITIATIVES  
AND  
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH AFFINITY  
ORGANIZATIONS.** >>  
>>

dedicated to  
making boating  
safer and more  
fun

USPS was organized in 1914. That's more than 90 years ago and since that time, we have been committed to helping boaters like you develop better skills and enjoy the fun of boating on America's waterways.

We have served the nation both in times of peace and war and have been recognized for our service by three US presidents.

In addition to our own initiatives, we recognize that making boating more responsible to environmental and security concerns requires broad and coordinated efforts with other groups. To that end, we are partnered extensively with governmental agencies like the US Coast Guard, NASBLA and NOAA, and with civic organizations like the Coast Guard Auxiliary, the National Safe Boating Council, Boat/US, and the Boy Scouts of America. All of these agencies and organizations share our love of recreational boating and have a secondary goal of keeping our boating environment secure, accessible and clean.

Ok, that's enough about us. Lets talk a little about you.



If you are considering the purchase of your first boat and want to acquire the knowledge and skills to boat safely and confidently, we can help meet your needs. Maybe you already own a boat and would like to sharpen or add to your skills while enjoying the company of others who share your passion for boating? Well, USPS is right for you too.

And if you are already a highly experienced mariner, and you would like to share your knowledge and skills with others, then USPS can provide that opportunity as well.

In fact, you don't even need to own a boat to be a member!

In addition to providing fun and enjoyable recreational boating educational opportunities, USPS is a "family-friendly" group, offering something for everyone in YOUR family from fishing to kayaking, wake-boarding to cruising. Come on board, learn more and join the crew of your local power squadron unit!



“There are lots of reasons to consider joining USPS. By investing just a few minutes of your time now, you will learn that USPS has a world of enjoyable, boating opportunities that will build your skills and increase your confidence level as a mariner and boat handler.

Hook that fish, sail that boat, paddle that stream while you get the answers; know more and benefit from your membership in USPS. Just imagine the possibilities!

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# Have Fun with Us!



On the water



&

On the Land! >>

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Upon joining USPS, you'll enjoy associating with fellow mariners who share your love of boating and have a desire to add to their boating skills and make it safer out there on America's waterways. You can participate in on-water activities such as cruises, raft-ups, sailboat races, and practical, yet fun, tests of your charting and navigational skills, and much more. Off the water, you can take part in family oriented picnics, dinner socials, potluck suppers, such fun events as cardboard boat building and dinghy races. "

Interested in giving back to your community? You can teach a course, perform vessel safety inspections, and work with youth. We need you and the opportunities are limitless to make a real contribution to promoting secure and responsible boating on America's waterways. Get on board today!

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# Show Others about Boating Seminars



take-away handy guides & notes

## ***Seminar Series – New Initiative in Learning***

The hallmark of our USPS University concept is the **Seminar Series**. These short seminars are targeted to specific topics and recreational boater needs with a two-hour format, and valuable take-away guides. Each seminar provides credits toward the soon to be released *Boat Operator Certification* program, and credit toward elective courses.

The first four of these seminars are available now. Ask about our next offering if you are interested in signing up for the next scheduled seminar.

[Using VHF & VHF/DSC Marine Radio](#)

[Using GPS](#)

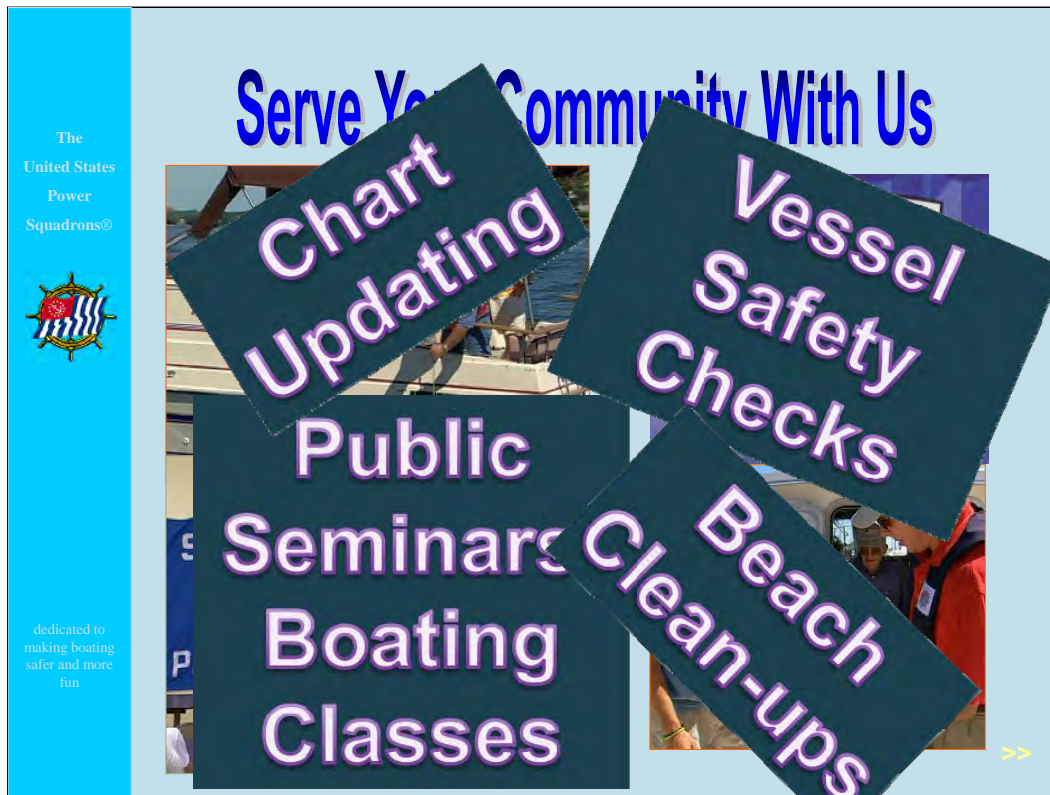
[How to Use a Chart](#)

[Onboard Weather Forecasting](#)

Several more seminars are nearing completion and will be available soon: *Knots for Mariners*, *Boat Handling under Power*, *Sail Trim*, *Onboard Emergencies*, *Using Digital Charts*, and *Heavy Weather Sailing*. Your instructor will be able to advise you of their availability.

USPS members: Check out more info on these seminars at [http://www.usps.org/e\\_stuff/seminars.htm](http://www.usps.org/e_stuff/seminars.htm)





Part of being a member is giving something back to your community, with the promotion of secure and responsible boating. You can help USPS conduct boating safety courses and educational seminars for the public; or help teach boating safety to children through our Boating Safety for Kids program. You can participate in the USPS Cooperative Charting program that helps to maintain the accuracy of nautical charts issued by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Through the Vessel Safety Examination program, a cooperative program between USPS and the US Coast Guard Auxiliary, you can become certified to perform voluntary safety inspections of others' recreational boats as part of the Vessel Safety Examination Program. To date, tens of thousands of boats have been voluntarily inspected each year under this program, helping countless boaters identify safety items in need of attention and to encourage safe and secure boating on our public waterways.

Environmental best practices indicate that we need to clean-up frequently used recreational areas, public beaches and waterways. Many squadrons encourage participation by members in these efforts as part of being a committed volunteer member. They are fun too as often the squadron hosts a picnic or outing at the area to be cleaned.

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# Youth Programs

*Sea Scout and Apprentice Memberships*

“Do you have children? If so, USPS offers programs designed to teach life-saving boating skills to young children, and provide them with creative and practical opportunities to use what they learn about boating.

Children are often viewed as guests on boats and are ill-equipped to rescue themselves in dangerous situations. Studies show that if they are properly trained, they can contribute to their own safety and be equipped to assist with rescue of others at critical times.

Our partnership with Sea Scouts-BSA allows both young men and women opportunities to become hands-on sailors and competent mariners as well as contributing citizens promoting responsible boating.

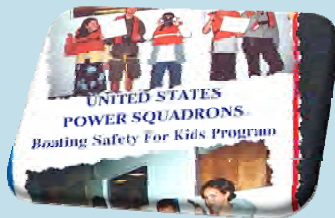
# Community Outreach Programs

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- ✓ **WaterSmart™ From The Start**
- ✓ **Educational Games**
- ✓ **Sea Scouts**
- ✓ **Poster Contest**
- ✓ **Environmental Concerns**



Kids will enjoy “virtual” boating with our newest educational endeavor: A game that teaches boating rules of the road, navigational concepts, and vessel operator skills, through game play. Other topics include reducing our environmental footprint while boating and mastering docking and rescue procedures. All training is done in fast pace but fun-filled game play using computer simulations. WaterSmart from the Start® was developed by a grant from the USCG; this is the first foray into game educational play for the younger generation. Other youth-oriented activities include the Youth Poster Contest, classroom hands on laboratory activities and sailing and recreational boating through Sea Scouts – BSA units working in partnership with USPS squadrons.

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# Benefits of USPS Membership

**Insurance Savings** **Nobeltec**



**Save On Computer  
Technology,  
Software & More!  
Up to 40%**

**Maptech**

**McGraw-Hill**

Visit: [http://www.usps.org/national/admin\\_dept/membenefits.htm](http://www.usps.org/national/admin_dept/membenefits.htm) >>

As a USPS member you will also receive a number of tangible benefits that can reduce the cost of your involvement with recreational boating.

**Insurance Discounts :** Many insurers extend premium discounts to USPS members. You may qualify for a premium discount of up to 22% or more, based upon the level of USPS training you have completed. And USPS has a relationship with a national insurance company, that provides very competitive rates for an excellent boat policy.

Other benefits include discounts on software, long term care insurance, boat towing insurance, Maptech Charts and accessories, Nobeltec software and vector charts, Dell computers, Chase Visa, and others.

*USPS members: Download and distribute the Benefits brochures at [http://www.usps.org/national/admin\\_dept/memtools/membeneflyer.pdf](http://www.usps.org/national/admin_dept/memtools/membeneflyer.pdf)*

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# It's Easy To Join USPS

- **Submit your application to your nearest squadron and be accepted**
- **Volunteer one hour a month to your local squadron**
- **Pay applicable membership dues and fees**

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**Although USPS currently has no education requirement for membership,** squadrons may elect to require the passing of a NASBLA “approved” boating course as a requirement for membership. If you have completed any of the following courses please insert the course name and date of completion on the USPS application form in the space provided as some insurance discounts as well as Boat Operator Certification requirements may also require completion of a NASBLA\*\* approved course.

Can you say “yes” to the following questions?”

- Are you able and willing to contribute time, energy and skills to the objectives of USPS?
- Have you been accepted By The Squadron Executive Committee?
- Are you at least 18 years of age?
- Have you paid all applicable dues and fees?

Sign up today and start enjoying safe, secure and responsible recreational boating with America’s Boating Club.

\*\* USPS or NASBLA approved courses include: USCG Captain License, graduate degree from the US Naval Academy, USCG Academy or US Merchant Marine Academy and any boating course carrying NASBLA certification.

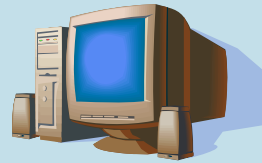
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# Dell Computers

▶ **USPS members are eligible for a  
10% discount through Dell's  
Member Program.**



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# Add it all up ...

- ➡ **FUN, EDUCATION,  
DISCOUNTS**
- ➡ **CAN YOU AFFORD NOT  
TO JOIN THE **XXXXXXXXXX**  
SAIL & POWER  
SQUADRON?**



<http://www.rsps.org>



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# America's Boating Club

[www.USPS.org](http://www.USPS.org)

**1-888-FOR-USPS**

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fun

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And when you are a member, we think you'll agree that whether you are new to boating or have extensive boating experience, USPS has lots to offer. The best part is that it's all there waiting for you to take advantage of it. It's easy to get started. If you are interested in joining our growing family of members or have further questions, please call us at 1-888-FOR-USPS, or visit our web site at [www.usps.org](http://www.usps.org). In a class, speak to your instructor or proctor. Remember: YOU HAVE QUESTIONS...WE HAVE THE ANSWERS!



# Come Join Our Growing Family

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Remember: Whatever kind of boating you enjoy, whatever your skill level, there is something for you in USPS. Join us today!