

Boulder Valley Sail and Power Squadron Membership Fact Sheet

Welcome to the Boulder Valley Sail and Power Squadron (BVSPS), a member of the United States Power Squadrons (USPS) which was founded in 1914. There are more than 440 Squadrons with over 45,000 members. USPS is the premier educational/fraternal organization in the world over all 50 states, Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands, and Japan.

BVSPS was chartered in June 1977 and members are located along the Front Range of the Colorado Rockies generally centered around Boulder, Colorado. Some of its members are also from Colorado's Western Slope and as far away as Hawaii, Massachusetts, Florida, Texas, and Arizona.

Organization: You are able to reach the officers and committee members directly on WWW.bvsps.org. The executive committee consists of the Commander, Executive Officer, Educational Officer, Administrative Officer, Secretary and Treasurer.

Membership Meetings: Generally held the 4th Thursday of each month at the Boulder Inn Best Western at 7:30 PM except during the summer boating months. Executive Committee meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month (with exceptions). All members are welcome to attend and join the discussions, but voting is left to the officers. See Beacon for latest activities and dates/times.

Member Benefits:

- Education curriculum (Seamanship, Piloting, Advanced Piloting, Junior Navigation, Engine Maintenance, Marine Electronics, Cruise Planning, Sail, Weather, Instructor Development, and many seminars like Marine Radio, GPS, How to use a Chart, On board Weather Forecasting, Boat Handling under Power, Sail Trim and Rig Tuning. Future USPS Seminars: Knots for Mariners, Onboard Emergencies, Using Digital Charts, Heavy Weather Sailing. Contact Dave Hughes, Education Officer for more information
- Monthly award winning newsletter, the Beacon, and the Ensign, the national monthly magazine.
- Discounts on these services: Boat U.S., West Marine, Maptech software and charts, Nobeltec Software, Charts, Tides and Currents, Rosepoint Navigation Software, McGraw Hill On-line Bookstore, Infocus LCD, Discountech/Microsoft Software, Hamilton Marine, C-Map, Dell Computer (10%),
- Port Captains Program: Provides members with travel tips and local information when traveling in unfamiliar areas. Available online on the national website.
- Save up to a 23% discount on your boat insurance (20% based on courses completed and another 3% for a Vessel Safety Check

- Other Opportunities: Participate in on-the-water activities, cruises and rendezvous, social events, potluck dinners, picnics, parties and interesting meetings on topics of interest to boaters

Volunteer Opportunities: teaching classes or seminars, giving programs, working on community boating program, hosting socials, organizing local events, organizing or helping on cruises, leading group charters, hosting buddy boating, and leading workshops. Please contact A.D. or others on Exec Committee of your interest and please note on survey.

Volunteer Recognition: Merit Marks are special recognition that the Commander gives to those members who have given “substantial work” to the squadron. USPS headquarters has defined it as providing more than 10 hours of volunteer service for the year. Each year the Commander has the privilege of submitting Merit Mark recommendations to the main headquarters for approval.

Membership:

- June 1 through May 31. New members joining in March, April, or May get up to 15 months of membership for the cost of 12 months.
- Categories: Single Member \$61.90 plus one time entrance fee of \$25.00
 Family Member \$93.85 plus one time entrance fee of \$25.00
- Membership Chair is Gwen Andersen
- When you become a member, you will receive a certificate number and that will serve as your ID for entering restricted areas of local and National Website and to use for registering for classes. For example, you can use your certificate number to access our Boulder Valley Sail and Power Squadron membership roster.

Survey: The Boulder Valley Sail and Power Squadron Survey is used to gather your interests and needs, and how you are willing to participate with the Squadron. It is a useful tool to help us know what are members want. Surveys are available online and at regular meetings.

Web Site: Local WWW.bvsps.org

National: WWW.USPS.ORG, 1-888-FOR-USPS

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