

THE BITTER END

News from Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron

September 2013

A Unit of United States Power Squadrons ® District 16

Web Page: www.usps.org/localusps/skagit

Email: ssboatschool@hotmail.com



Calendar

12 September, General Meeting—Farmhouse Restaurant
20-22 September, Roche Harbor Marina, San Juan Island
28 September, Annual Charter Party, Coronet Bay



Commander's Message Kelly Libby, S

Hello Skagit Bay Sail & Power Squadron!
What a gorgeous summer for being on or near the water...and it's not over yet! The nice weather appears to be working its way into fall and we still have a few more rendezvous on the schedule. We sure hope you can join us! As with a lot of our rendezvous - you can come by boat, RV, your own car or ride on the WA State big green and white boat... Donna Mason, our most excellent Boating Activities Director, planned it that way! Thank you to the many Rendezvous Hosts that stepped up and had some fun with planning activities this past summer at each destination. I can honestly say I think we've found that most destinations all have a great Farmers Market with the exception of Sucia! Two things our group likes: 1) Farmers Markets and 2) Ice Cream Stands!

Thank you George Johnson, aka "Shipwrecker", for organizing and managing yet another very successful all-day fundraiser – Shipwreck Day in Anacortes! This annual fundraiser brought in approximately \$2,000! Thanks to the many helping hands in our booth, thank you to those who brought the big trucks and the tables and also those who donated! See, it wasn't junk after all?!?! Shipwreck Day is one long day a year but always a lot of fun when you are working with this group! Thank you again everyone!

Paul Rosetter, along with George Johnson, is preparing to lead the fall "ABC" class tentatively scheduled for September 30th through October 16th, Mondays and Wednesday, 7 to 9 pm at the Skagit Valley Hospital. If you know of anyone in your community that would like to take this basic boating class, please spread the word! Have you thought about getting involved in our Education Department and helping out at a class or two, please let me know...we could use your assistance, expertise and especially your enthusiasm about boating! Thank you to our wonderful Education Department!

Our September meeting is coming up quickly! September 12th at the Farmhouse Restaurant - program is "Squadron Boating Talk"! This is our annual first get together after the summer season and it is like a squadron reunion - we visit, share stories and pictures, you can even make up stories, we'll never know! We'd like to see as many members as possible for this dinner program! If you would like to attend a rendezvous or program and need a ride, please let me know and we'll find a way to get you there! My phone is 425-359-7078.



Executive Department
Kari Randall-Secret, N

Summer is quickly fading on us and I can't believe Fall is just around the corner. I sure hope everyone is enjoying the weather while it lasts. Deanna and I had loads of fun at our rendezvous' these last few months. So far this summer, we've made it to Sucia, Bellingham, Deer Harbor and even managed to get legally married too!



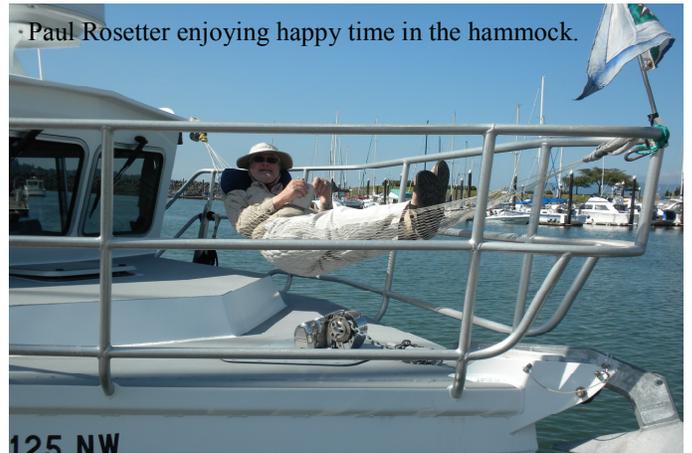
I want to send a big shout out to George Johnson and everyone who volunteered or donated items for Shipwreck Day this year. As usual, it was a great success! I'm also sending many thanks to Donna and Paul for making sure our summer rendezvous' went smoothly and entailed lots of fun times spent with good friends. As we head into the Fall season, we'll be starting up our monthly meetings which are primarily held on the second Thursday of each month. This month's meeting will be at held at the Farmhouse Restaurant on Thursday, September 12th. As usual our social time begins at 6:00 pm, meeting starts at 6:30, with dinner at 7:00 pm and program to follow. I've heard it said that every summer has a story, and I certainly hope you find your summer story this year to be packed full of fun and enjoyable memories on or near the water.



Photos of Squadron Summer Fun



Paul Rosetter, happy that it is dinnertime



Paul Rosetter enjoying happy time in the hammock.



Deer Harbor Rendezvous Floating Party Dock with Dale and Kelly Libby, Mark Richey, Elisabeth Libby with Gidget, Kari Randall-Secret, Paul Rosetter, Deanna Randall-Secret, and Kari's parents Pam and Nick.

Summer Rendezvous Friends

Squadron Member Assists Toronto Sailing Couple during July 4th Weekend At Squalicum Harbor.

From the log of Aubrey and Judy Millard on "Veleda IV"

...We returned to Squalicum Harbour next day, July 4, U.S. Independence Day to go alongside our usual transient "T" dock at Gate 12. However as I was slowly motoring inside the harbour ready to make a 180 degree turn to go alongside, I wanted to put the engine in neutral to coast over to the dock, but I couldn't take the engine out of forward gear! The engine was stuck in gear and I couldn't go into neutral or reverse. The gearshift cable was seized up. Lots of fun! I could throttle down but not stop the forward thrust of the propeller. The light breeze was blowing astern of us but towards the dock. I altered the 180 degrees to starboard to line up parallel to the dock, reduced the revs as much as possible, then shut the engine off to glide in dead slow, and drift to a stop alongside, well before the next boat forward of us.

The Skagit Power Squadron had the whole dock reserved for their club, but only two boats were alongside at the time, and their crews helped move Veleda closer to make room for the other expected boats. They welcomed us to join their rendezvous cocktail hour and pot luck supper on the dock. Very hospitable of them. Barb and Dan left early afternoon as Dan was driving my Yukon back to store at their place on Vancouver Island.

Meanwhile we had to assess the seized up gearshift cable. As usual, nothing is ever simple! To access the gearshift we had to take the compass off the binnacle, complicated by the fact it wouldn't come off without serious damage. However I was able to loosen up a few bolts to swing the compass over allowing access to the cable lever. Down in the engine compartment was another problem. This meant we had to empty out the entire port cockpit locker. Fortunately Mike, a power squadron member came over and offered his help, which was greatly appreciated. He crawled into the port cockpit locker to access the coupling and after much finagling at the engine and binnacle couplings, we extracted the cable, crimped and melted where it came close to the muffler.

Next day we walked the damaged cable the 500 metres over to Reddens, an excellent chandlery beside the marina, and were pleasantly surprised when they had a cable the exact size to replace our damaged one. Mike came and helped us install it. We left at 1345, after hosting several of the Skagit Power Squadron who were interested in Veleda and came over to see us off. Many thanks to their squadron, and particularly to Mike on Mystic, for their assistance and hospitality.

Donna



Deana, Aubrey, Debbie Mark and Donna next to "VELEDA IV"

2013 Rendezvous Schedule



- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| September 20-22 | Roche Harbor Marina, San Juan Island |
| September 28 | SBSPS Anniversary Cookout
Coronet Bay, Deception Pass |
| October 4-6 | Rosario Resort & Spa, Orcas Island |
| November 9 | Granville Island, B.C. Day Trip |
| November 27-30 | Fort Casey RV Weekend |
| December 7 | LaConner Lighted Boat Parade &
Squadron Holiday Party |

Contact Donna Mason at donnajmason@gmail.com for info, suggestions or to be the host.



Boating Activities
By P/C Donna Mason, AP

This summer of beautiful weather and lots of outdoor projects just sped right by. OMG, it's time to start writing newsletter articles again!

September 20-22 Roche Harbor Marina, San Juan Island, hosted by Debbie and Mark Richey—our super-hosts this month!

September 28 SBSPS Anniversary Cookout, Coronet Bay, Deception Pass Park, hosted by our Cdr Kelly and Dale Libby.

Save the date: October 4-6 Rosario Marina at the Resort & Spa on Orcas Island

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Host needed for November Granville Island B.C. Day Trip: Alas, Paul and I will not be able to host this day trip we planned back at our January meeting. Would anyone else like to be the host? Please let me know: donnajmason@gmail.com.

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Here's a recap of our squadron's recent boating rendezvous:

May 31-June 2, a jam-packed weekend of activities at the Anacortes Waterfront.

June 14-16, Kari and Deanna Randall-Secrest hosted this weekend at Sucia Island's Fossil Bay. Paul and I had to miss that one.



July 4-7, Bellingham's Squalicum Harbor July 4th weekend did not disappoint! In addition to the fun

activities, we met a Toronto Squadron couple, Judy and Aubrey Millard, who have been living on their sailboat 15 years and have travelled much of the world! We let them tie up at our dock when they ran into mechanical trouble. Long story short is that our squadron member Mike Connell turned into Might Mouse saving the day by making the repair with a part the couple were able to find at Redden Marine at the harbor. (See more on that amazing couple elsewhere in the newsletter.) Hats off to Mike Connell!

July 20 Shipwreck Day, not a boating activity, but it's such a fun day that I just had to mention it. A lot of squadron members worked really hard for a long day to earn funds for our squadron's coffers. A lot of squadron members donated good merchandise for us to sell at our double booth. Thanks George Johnson for managing that big job.

July 26-28 Fisherman Bay Lopez Island was hosted by Dale and Kelly Libby. Weather was great, and the winds didn't try to kick us off the island. We enjoyed way too much good food and Lopez Ice Cream, although we tried to justify it by walking to town for the Farmer's Market Saturday. Crabbing was pretty good.

August 16-18 Deer Harbor Marina, Orcas Island. We all braved Obstruction Pass on our way to Deer Harbor this year. Saturday some explored East Sound and others relaxed at the **dock**. It was a low-key, wonderful weekend. The marina provided us with a new floating dock with our rental of the BBQ grill, and they assigned our slip spaces next to or across from it. Dale Libby gets the prize for swatting the most yellow jackets with his new electric paddle.

August 23-25 Port Hudson Marina in Port Townsend. Dale and Kelly Libby hosted this rendezvous and piloted their boat through Deception **Pass and** across Admiralty Inlet for a slip amongst a sailboat rendezvous. Paul and I backpacked and walked on the ferry to stay at a hotel near the marina. We connected with another sailing couple of USPS members who are finishing refitting their 33' sailboat and are about to embark on a long journey to California and eventually to Mexico. **A BIG THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE HOSTED RENDEZVOUS THIS YEAR!**

The Pledge

I do solemnly pledge to: Abide by the bylaws of the United States Power Squadrons®; Promote high standards of navigation and seamanship; Maintain my boat and operate it legally; Render assistance whenever possible; and conduct myself in a manner that will add prestige, honor and respect to the United States Power Squadrons.®

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS	HAPPY ANNIVERSARY
Rick Anderson Ruth Peterson	Mark and Debbie

~ General Meeting Information ~

Our General Meetings are held monthly on the 2nd Thursdays of each month (except July & August), at The Farmhouse Restaurant, corner of SR20 and La Conner-Whitney Road. Greetings and social time starts at 1800 with dinner at 1900. Meeting is normally held just before dinner. When a program is available it usually starts about 1930. The meeting is sometimes moved to another date or venue for special occasions, but that will be advertised in the newsletter or an email notice.

Course Passed	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
ABC	42	20	29	15	24
Seamanship		8	2		10
Piloting		4	1		
Advanced Piloting	3	3			
Junior Navigation	8			1	
Navigation		9			
Cruise Planning					
Instructor Development (Certified Instructors)					
Engine Maintenance			8		
Marine Electronics	9				
Marine Communications					
Marine Electrical Syst					7
Weather					
Sail					
Operations Training	3	2			

Bridge Officers		
Commander	Kelly Libby, S	360-435-3835
Executive Officer	Kari Secrest, N	360-387-1194
Education Officer	Vacant	
Administrative Officer	Mark Richey, SN	360-387-1260
Secretary	George Johnson, SN	360-588-8125
Treasurer	Marlene Bellinger, AP	360-757-8091
Executive Committee		
	Bob Miller, JN	360-588-9950
	Lynn Stewart, P	360-424-1270
	Sandy Johnson, P	360-588-8125
	Vacant	
Commander Department		
Chaplain	Ruth Peterson, SN	360-293-1888
Flag Lt.	Albert Miller, P	360-391-1897
Port Captain	Vacant	
Law Officer	Vacant	
Merit Marks	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
	Jean Miller, N	360-588-9950
	John Bellinger, SN	360-757-8091
Executive Department		
Co-Op Charting	Lynn Stewart, P	360-424-1270
Liaison	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Public Relations	Deanna Randall, N	360-387-1194
Asst Public Relations	Albert Miller	360-466-3470
Radio Technical	George Brooks, SN	360-391-1897
Safety	Bill Stewart, JN	360-424-1270
Vessel Exams	Rick Anderson, SN	360-757-6241
Education Department		
Assistant Education Officer	Paul Rosetter, AP	360-595-1083
Local Board Public Boating	George Johnson, SN	360-588-8125
Local Board Advanced Grades	Rick Anderson, SN	360-757-6241
Local Board Elect Courses	John Bellinger, SN	360-757-8091
Administrative Department		
Boating Activities	Donna Mason, AP	360-595-1083
Galley	Sandy Evans	360-305-8330
Greeting	Sandy Evans	360-305-8330
	Dale Libby, P	360-435-3835
Membership	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Operations Training	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Programs	Mark Richey, SN	360-387-1260
Property Officer	Mark Richey, SN	360-387-1260
Supply Officer	Mark Richey, SN	360-387-1260
Telephone	Mark Richey, SN	360-387-1260
	Sandy Evans	360-305-8330
	Bill Stewart, JN	360-424-1270
Secretary's Department		
Editor "Bitter End"	Mark Richey, SN	360-435-3835
Historian	Lynn Stewart, P	360-424-1270
Roster	Bob Miller, JN	360-588-9950
Scrapbook	Coco Haynes, S	360-293-0592
Webmaster	Kari Secrest, N	360-387-1194
Auditing Committee		
1 Yr Chair	Sandy Johnson, P	360-588-8125
2 Yrs.	Dale Libby, P	360-435-3835
3 Yrs.	Sharon Knowles, AP	
Nominating Committee		
1 Yr. Chair	Jean Miller, N	360-588-9950
2 Yrs.	Deanna Randall, N	360-387-1194
3 Yrs.	George Brooks, SN	360-466-3470
Rules Committee		
1 Yr. Chair	Ruth Peterson, SN	360-293-1888
2 Yrs.	Bill Stewart, JN	360-424-1270
3 Yrs.	John Bellinger, SN	360-757-8091