

THE BITTER END

News from Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron April 2016

A Unit of United States Power Squadrons ® District 16

Web Page: www.skagitsquadron.org

Email: ssboatschool@hotmail.com



CALENDAR

14 April—Change of Watch, Farmhouse Restaurant

22-24 April - Sidney BC Rendezvous. See Article

08 May—Happy Mothers Day



Happy Spring. Do something nice for your mother. Take her to the tulip festival. Checkout our Facebook Group by clicking here <https://www.facebook.com/groups/SBSPS/> and feel free to add fun stuff, photos, comments that the public might be interested in. Invite your boating friends. Make this a fun Squadron.



Commander's Message Kari Randall-Secrest, N

Spring has definitely sprung and we started it off with a great trip for our Friday Harbor Rendezvous. It seemed to me that we had good weather, good food, and good friends ... what more could we ask for?

I hope all of you plan on attending the meeting April 14th at the Farmhouse for our annual Change of Watch. I will be passing the torch to our incoming Commander Donna Mason, who has a wealth of experience and knowledge, so it is very easy for me to ask for your continued support for Donna and her new bridge as they move our squadron forward. You will still see me around though, because I am happy to continue serving as our squadron's Secretary and look forward to lots of fun and comradery in the coming year. With much gratitude, I want to sincerely thank my own bridge members for their hard work and support over the past two years. You folks are the best!

After sadly reading about the recent dissolution of the Olympia squadron, I just can't state my thanks enough to all of our members that stepped up and took on a position for the new year. Our squadron has a fantastic group of members and I very much appreciate everyone's willingness to help keep it going, whether that is taking a bridge position, accepting a committee position, teaching classes or just helping out with our annual fundraiser on Shipwreck Day. Way to go Skagit Bay! It has truly been an honor and a pleasure to serve as your Commander over the past two years.



Education Department P/C Debbie Richey, AP

Welcome to another year of boating education! This coming year we will see our textbooks available in electronic form. They will work on your Kindle, Nook, iPad or even your phone. You will be able to print them as many times as you like and like the current printed books, you can keep them forever. As I get more information, I will be sure to pass it along. At this time, I don't have a list of what courses will be available as an e-book.



Treasurers Department 1/Lt Robert J. Miller, JN

As of 04 April 2016, our bank account has \$5,265.78

As of 08 March 2016, our bank account has \$5,475.70.

Income since the last statement was \$41, mostly with dues from National.

Expected income during this month is \$0.

Expenditures during February was \$411 for Shipwreck Days, ABC course material, and Bayhill Storage.

Expected expenditures during this month is \$68 for storage, \$100 for CoW expenses.



**Boating Activities
P/C Donna J. Mason, AP**

**See Bob Miller's excellent article
on the Sidney, B.C. Rendezvous**

**April 22-24, Port Sidney Marina,
Vancouver Island, B.C. Canada, Hosts: Bob and
Jean Miller**

Bob has made great plans and has included a couple other squadrons on this rendezvous. He will publish more details. For planning purposes, if you cannot come by boat, you may consider taking the Anacortes walk-on ferry leaving at 8:30 a.m., arriving at 11:10 in Sidney, staying in a hotel near the marina, enjoy all Sidney has to offer, and return on the ferry from Sidney at 12:05 p.m., arriving in Anacortes at 3 p.m. Due to a prior commitment for Sunday, Paul and I will take the Friday ferry and return Saturday.

May 13-15: Be sure to make your marina reservations for the LaConner Marina North Basin for this weekend rendezvous. Call 360 466-3118 and tell them you're with Skagit Bay Squadron. Available space may fill up. More information about the marina is at www.portofskagit.com/laconner-marina. Hosts Kari and Deanna will publish more details later.

See you at Change of Watch!



Dick Hunter, Mark and Debbie Richey, George and Jeanne Brooks, Kari Randall-Secret, Geroge and Sandy Johnson, Paul Rosetter, Donna Mason with guests Howard and Verna Patrick, and ABC class graduates Glen and Carolyn Caporgno enjoyed happy hour and dinner at the Cask and Schooner in Friday Harbor on Saturday March 26.



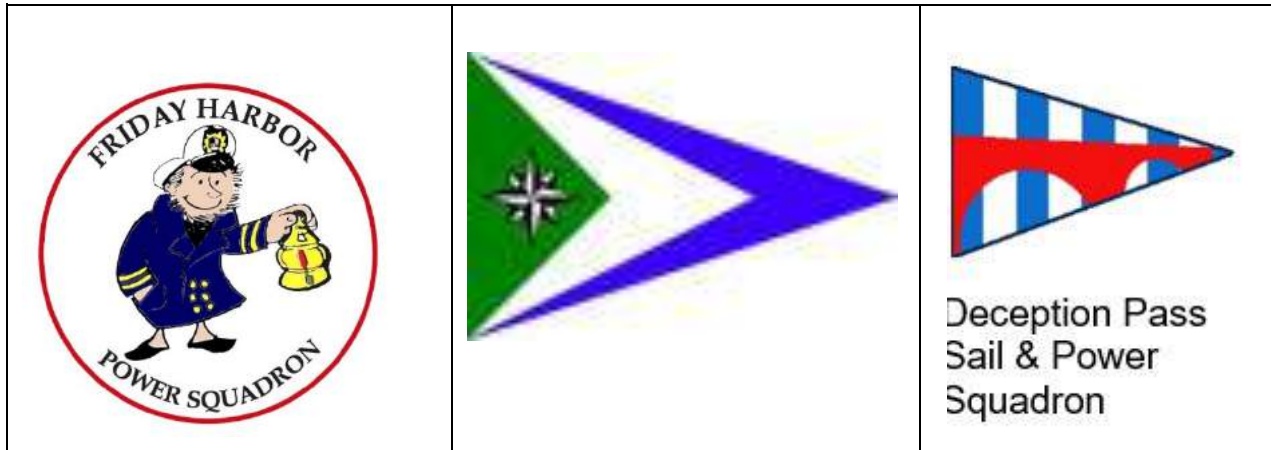
Squadron members Craig and /Billie Ford and 5 family members celebrating Craig's birthday,



We were joined by Friday Harbor Squadron members Carolyn and Fred Bowen, Incoming Cdr Ann Einboden, Travis Smith and Outgoing Cdr Terry Lush enjoying conversation with Debbie Richey.



Dick Hunter boated over for the weekend on "Anamcara" Donna Mason



Skagit Bay, Friday Harbor, and Deception Pass Joint Rendezvous in Sidney, BC 22-24 April 2016

Hosts: Bob and Jean Miller, bobmillerwa@hotmail.com, 360-588-9950 (home), 360-540-1686 (boat)

Where: Port of Sidney Marina, BC, <http://www.portsidney.com/>, 48° 39' N, 123° 24'W, VHF CH 66A
Head over to Vancouver Island, BC, and join Bob and Jean Miller and the rest of the Skagit Bay SPS cruisers as we visit nearby Sidney on (with luck) a nice Spring weekend. The host boat will be the *Loon Song*. This will be a great chance for members of the Skagit Bay, Friday Harbor, and Deception Pass squadrons to check out their boats in preparation for Spring cruising.

The Town of Sidney (sometimes called Sidney-by-the-Sea or the 'Book Store Village') is a great place to spend the weekend, with plenty of good restaurants, nice galleries, and lots of chocolate and tea shops! Bob always says "Chocolate is one of the basic food groups."

The Port Sidney Marina features wide concrete docks, lots of space (at least early in the season), and is located at the base of the main shopping street, Beacon Avenue. Winter rates are still in effect. We may use the Party Dock for a Saturday afternoon 'meet and greet'.

Planned Activities: Not many; this is a way kicked-back rendezvous. Just wander along the streets and waterfront, get some exercise, do some shopping, eat some stuff, and take it easy. On Saturday night we will go to a restaurant, which will be chosen by the rendezvous attendees. Perhaps some of your fellow boaters can come up with some group activities for the days. For those arriving on Friday, Jean and I will host an informal meet and greet onboard *Loon Song*, bring your own drink and a snack to share.

How to Get There --

By Boat: Sidney is about 35 nautical miles from Cap Sante in Anacortes and less than 20 miles from Friday Harbor. If leaving from Anacortes, turn left out of Padilla Bay into Guemes Channel and just head west. You may have to dodge some islands and large white and green ferry boats, but the cruise is protected and scenic. Look for the orca pods and other wild life. Upon arriving at the entrance to the channel to the marina, hail Port Sidney Marina on VHF Ch 66A to get docking directions after you clear Canadian customs inside.

By Ferry: The Anacortes-Sidney Washington State ferry leaves Anacortes at 08:30 am and arrives in Sidney by 11:10 am, with a stop in Friday Harbor (departs Friday Harbor at 09:55 am). On Sunday, catch the 12:05 pm ferry to arrive back in Friday Harbor at 1:20 pm and Anacortes by 3:00 pm.

Lodging in Sidney: For those coming by ferry, there are several hotels within walking distance of the ferry terminal and the marina. <http://www.ehcanadatravel.com/british-columbia/vancouver-island/sidney.html>

Passports and Border Control: US Passports are required to get back into the USA and facilitate entry into Canada. Standard WA Drivers Licenses are not adequate identification. Ferry riders are checked as they exit in Sidney, and in Friday Harbor. Boaters tie up to the customs dock in the turning basin at the marina and use the direct line phone on the dock for clearance. Returning to the USA, boaters can phone US Customs and Border Protection while underway at 800-562-5943.

Reservations for Your Boat: Please make your own reservation at Port of Sidney Marina on their website at <http://portsidney.com/port-sidney-marina-reservations/> or phone the office at 250-655-3711. Make sure to mention that this is for the Skagit Bay Power Squadron group rendezvous. Also send an email to the cruise coordinator (see next section). **The marina requires reservations be made at least a month before the event.**

To Signup: Send an email to Bob Miller, Skagit Bay SPS, bobmillerwa@hotmail.com, listing the names of the people attending the rendezvous, the date of arrival, mode of arrival (boat, ferry), and the boat name if coming by boat. If on a boat, also include the LOA, beam, and power requirements (30 or 50 amps), and your docking preference (bow or stern in, port or starboard tie).

More Information

Town of Sidney website, <http://www.sidney.ca/>

Tourism site for Sidney, <http://www.tourismmall.victoria.bc.ca/sidney.html#whygo>

WA State Ferry Schedule for Anacortes-Sidney, <http://www.wsdot.com/ferries/Schedule/ScheduleDetailByRoute.aspx?schedrouteid=1655&route=ana-sj-sid>

Reservations at the Port of Sidney, <http://portsidney.com/port-sidney-marina-reservations/>

Skagit Bay Sail & Power Squadron

Meeting Minutes

March 10, 2016

Meeting Location: Farmhouse Restaurant

Start Time: 1835 hours

Attendance:

Dick Hunter	Debbie Richey	Rhonda Wahlgren	Sharon Knowles
Jeanne Brooks	George Brooks	Marlene Bellinger	John Bellinger
Bill Stewart	Lynn Stewart	Kelly Libby	Deanna Randall-Secret
Donna Mason	Paul Rosetter	Sheryl Wytychak	Mike Wytychak
Rebecca Burton	Kristofer Burton	Jim Burton	Emily Anne Burton
Kanyon Burton	Kaleb Burton	Ben Burton	Margaret Kerkhove
Anton Kerkhove	Billie Ford	Craig Ford	Patrick Swesey
Glen Caporgno	Carolyn Caporgno	Candy Larveau	Randy Larveau

Invocation given by: George Brooks

Flag Salute was led by Debbie Richey

Secretary's Report by Sharon Knowles: The Minutes of February meeting were published in the Bitter End. Correction, Craig & Billie's last name is Ford. Motion to approve the corrected minutes was made by Craig Ford, seconded by Lynn Stewart. Approved.

Treasurer's Report by Bob Miller:

Administrative Report by Deanna Randall-Secret: None.

Mike Wytychak introduced our speakers, Kristofer & Rebecca Burton, along with their children Emily Ann, Jim, Kanyon, Kaleb, and Ben. They spoke about their 10-Year Family Adventure aboard their sailboat, "Wandering Dolphin."

Donna Mason passed around a sign-up sheet for the Friday Harbor Rendezvous, to RSVP for dinner at the Cask & Schooner. She said that Bob & Jean Miller will send out information regarding the upcoming Sydney, BC rendezvous.

Executive Report by Mark Richey: None.

Education Report by Debbie Richey: Debbie remarked on Mike Wytychak's excellent job of teaching the successful ABC class. Bob Miller's piloting class recently wrapped up, and everyone passed.

Commander's Report by Debbie Richey for Kari Randall-Secret: The D16 Sprint Council/Conference will be March 18-20 in Tacoma. The Riches are the delegates for Skagit Bay. Next month's meeting will be the Change of Watch. It will be held at the Farmhouse Restaurant. It will begin at 6PM on April 14th. Dress will be informal, with uniforms optional. The candidates for the new bridge were presented. Lynn Stewart moved to accept the list, while John Bellinger seconded. Approved.

Donna Mason thanked Kelly Libby for her work as the nominating committee, as well as thanking everyone who stepped up to accept positions.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Meeting was adjourned at 1848 hours.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Knowles

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	APRIL BIRTHDAYS
	Richard Lyons Donna Mason David Starrett Walt Wood

~ 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.

FLOTSAM AND JETSAM

A place for articles and items of general interest, Jokes, recipes, etc.

WASHINGTON – STRAIT OF JUAN DE FUCA TO STRAIT OF GEORGIA – SWINOMISH CHANNEL– Swinomish Channel South Entrance Range Front Light reduction in dayboard size

The U.S. Coast Guard will be reducing the dayboard size of Swinomish Channel South Entrance Range Front Light (LLNR 18820) from a 8KRW (8' wide by 16' tall red dayboard with a white vertical stripe) to a 6KRW (6' wide by 12' tall red dayboard with a white vertical stripe). Tidal and wave action has destroyed the current 8KRW dayboard, and the 6KRW will be installed as a temporary measure until its effectiveness can be determined. The U.S. Coast Guard is soliciting comments on this change, which may be submitted to email address d13-PF-LNM@uscg.mil or (206) 220-7276.

There is a change to the Shag Rock Daybeacon in Harney Channel. It is changing to a WB Bn – White and Blue Beacon (currently a white beacon)

Bridge Officers		
Commander	Donna Mason, AP	360 595-1083
Executive Officer	Mark Richey, SN	425-876-6274
Education Officer	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Administrative Officer	Richard Hunter, P	206 851-2831
Secretary	Kari Randall-Secrest, N	360 387-1194
Treasurer	Bob Miller, JN	360-588-9950
Executive Committee		
	Marlene Bellinger, AP	360 757-8091
	Paul Rosetter, AP	360 595-1083
	Sandy Johnson, P	360-588-8125
	Kelly Libby, S	425-359-7078
Commander Department		
Chaplain	Ruth Peterson, SN	360-293-1888
Flag Lt.	Craig Ford	360 333-5308
Port Captain	Vacant	
Law Officer	Vacant	
Merit Marks	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
	Vacant	
	Vacant	
Executive Department		
Co-Op Charting	Lynn Stewart, P	360-424-1270
Liaison	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Public Relations	Deanna Randall-Secrest, N	360-387-1194
Asst Public Relations	Vacant	
Radio Technical	Vacant	
Safety	Bill Stewart, JN	360-424-1270
Vessel Exams	Vacant	
Education Department		
Assistant Education Officer	Bob Miller, JN	360 588-9950
Local Board Public Boating	George Johnson, SN	360-588-8125
Local Board Advanced Grds	George Brooks, SN	360 466-3470
Local Board Elect Courses	John Bellinger, SN	360-757-8091
Administrative Department		
Boating Activities	Donna Mason, AP	360 595-1083
Galley	Vacant	
Greeting	Craig Ford	360 333-5308
	Billie Ford	360 941-1956
Membership	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Operations Training	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Programs	Richard Hunter, P	206 851-2831
Property Officer	Vacant	
Supply Officer	Sheryl Wytychak	208-704-2249
Telephone	Vacant	
Secretary's Department		
Editor "Bitter End"	Mark Richey, SN	425-876-6274
Historian	Lynn Stewart, P	360-424-1270
Roster	Bob Miller, JN	360-588-9950
Scrapbook	Vacant	
Webmaster	Kari Randall-Secrest, N	360-387-1194
Auditing Committee		
1 Yr Chair	Elisabeth Libby, S	425 923-9368
2 Yrs.	Judy Bennett, S	707-443-2855
3 Yrs.	Billie Ford	360 941-1956
Nominating Committee		
1 Yr. Chair	Kelly Libby, S	425-359-7078
2 Yrs.	Paul Rosetter, AP	360 595-1083
3 Yrs.	George Johnson, SN	360-588-8125
Rules Committee		
1 Yr. Chair	John Bellinger, SN	360-757-8091
2 Yrs.	Ruth Peterson, SN	360-293-1888
3 Yrs.	Vacant	

Please note the vacancies. This is a fun group and you don't have to have a grade to have a committee position. Every little bit helps. Pick something you think you can do and help out. If you don't know what a spot does, ask the chair or an officer.