



THE BITTER END

Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron
October 2017

Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the friends SM

Web Page: www.skagitsquadron.org

Email: sboatschool@hotmail.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/SBSPS/



CALENDAR

12 Oct—Regular Meeting, Farmhouse
27-29 Oct—D16 Fall Conference, Bellevue
31 Oct—Halloween, Careful of the little monsters



Watch out for the little goblins out there. They may be hiding between cars. Good luck hunting this season and be careful out hiking they start shooting 10/14. See you at the D16 Conference. The form is in this issue.



Commander's Message Donna J. Mason, AP

Not a good idea

Boating under the influence is not a good idea. We know our SBSPS members are aware, but it might be helpful to have this information to inform others you see on our waters.

The Legislature passed a new bill effective July 23, 2017 giving marine law enforcement officers the authority to impound a vessel if they arrest an operator for boating under the influence and cannot find another qualified operator to take control of the vessel. If an impounded vessel is not redeemed within 15 days, then a foreclosure process can begin. (WA State Parks 8/29 email). It could result in a very expensive happy hour!

Thanks to an article in *Northwest Yachting* magazine for this information:

The legal blood-alcohol limit is .08 same as for operating an automobile.

Boating under the influence is a gross misdemeanor, punishable by up to a year in jail and a \$5,000 fine.

It is legal for passengers to drink alcohol onboard, but they must be 21 years of age and must not have an active role in handling the boat. (And I add, must not be the back-up pilot, in case of emergency.)

Local police officers and the Coast Guard, with probably cause, may ask a captain to submit to a breathalyzer test. Refusal can result in a \$1,000 fine and can increase the penalty for boating under the influence.

The U.S. Coast Guard may board your vessel at any time for any reason, with or without probable cause.

We don't pull out beer or wine until we are safely tied up at the dock or anchored for the night. Do note that a boat at anchor requires a sober captain. Someone needs to be able to pilot that boat out of danger.

Also, enough happens when we're sober so if you drink at the dock, be especially careful on docks, narrow side decks and in dinghies.

Flare guns or pyrotechnic visual distress signaling devices are now excluded from the definition of firearm (RCW 9.41.010) as published in a WA State Parks 8/29 email.

Being safe on the water makes boating much more enjoyable!

Merit Marks

Please e-mail to me (donnajmason@gmail.com) what you've done for the squadron to date in 2017 and how many hours you worked for each item. I thank you all for everything, large or small, you have done for the squadron this year. It means a lot and keeps our squadron healthy and thriving.

Looking to 2018

It also is that time of year to think about how you would like to help our squadron next year. The mission of United States Power Squadrons® is to promote recreational boating skills and boating safety through education, hands-on training and civic activities while providing fellowship for members. There are many choices for you. The Nomination Committee soon will reactivate and needs to hear from you so they can build the slate of positions for election in 2018. Contact Paul Rosetter (paul.rosetter@gmail.com) or George Johnson (georgeandsandy@comcast.net) with your area of interest. Thank you!

FLOTSAM AND JETSAM

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

New Mukilteo Ferry Dock: If you travel down around Mukilteo, you will see pile drivers setting the pilings for the new ferry dock. They will be lit, just be aware of them. If you are familiar with the area, they will be north of the Silver Cloud Inn in the vicinity of the old Air Force fuel storage area.

San Juan Channel: They are installing and recovering submarine cables in the San Juan Channel between San Juan Landing (Pear Point) on San Juan Island and Lopez Landing (Rock Point) on Lopez Island within the charted cable areas. This work will include diving and support activities. Operations will continue through 15 Oct 17

Dugualla Bay Range Lights: The U.S. Coast Guard will be testing a LED combination lantern system to replace the incandescent lantern at Swinomish Channel South Entrance Range Front Light (LLNR 18820). The change is expected to occur during the fall of 2017. A Broadcast Notice to Mariners will be issued when the change is made. The high intensity beam width will increase from 1° to 3° and the intensity of the beam will be increased. Mariners are encouraged to share comments on the performance and operation of this light and comments should be sent to the email address D13-PF-LNM@uscg.mil. Any discrepancy for these or other Aids to Navigation should continue to be reported to US Coast Guard Sector Puget Sound.



Education Department
P/C Debbie Richey, AP

Great news from the Education Department. We have finished ABC3 and started Seamanship. Cruise Planning will start sometime after the first of the year.

[Cruise Planning](#) is a great course to help you plan your cruise. You will learn how to provision, chartering, anchoring, security and other great information. For more information about the course, visit the USPS website. We are going to offer that starting in January.

I hope you all received the e-mail from USPS about a new webinar they are offering, Discover the Secrets of Ocean Currents. It will be broadcast on Tuesday, November 14, at 5 pm PST. I've signed up for it. If you're a slow boat, currents can make a big difference in how fast you will get to your destination and the course you take.

Discover the Secrets of Ocean Currents Our latest webinar, Ocean Currents & Computer Navigation, takes a look at how tidal and ocean currents affect navigation planning before a cruise and while underway.

After a brief history and an overview of current research, you'll learn how currents affect the movement of our oceans, including where to find and how to retrieve tidal current and open ocean current data. You'll learn how to use navigation software before and during a cruise to evaluate what effect the current will have on your route.

ANNIVERSARY COOKOUT AT CORNET BAY 30 SEPT



Print Your Own Educational Course Completion Certificates

Lt/C Robert J. Miller, JN

National is no longer sending out the Educational Course Completion Certificates and the function has been moved to the www.USPS.org website. Members can print their own certificates by signing into the members side of the USPS website and going to the Member Information Page, then selecting the *Show Training History* to print their certificates. Here are the steps needed:

1. Open the USPS website in your internet browser, www.USPS.org.
2. Select *Member's Log In* from the menu bar at the top of the page.
3. In the sign-in page, enter your USPS certificate number and your password or USPS PIN.
 - a. Your certificate number is in the squadron roster sent out quarterly.
 - b. Click on *Forgot password* if you can't remember your password, then follow the onscreen dialog to create a new one.
4. Check the *Remember Me* box to make sure that there is a check-mark in it and click the *Log in* button to get to the *Member Home* screen.
5. Your member profile is displayed on the right hand of the screen.
6. Check the *Manage Profile* box to display more profile details, many of which can be changed on the screen.
7. Look for *Show Training History* in blue type near the heading message and click it.
8. The *Training History* page opens. Details on how to use the features on the page can be viewed by clicking on *How to Use*.
9. The traditional full page of course stickers can be printed by clicking on *Print an Eddept "Full Certificate"*. A download PDF file will be presented, usually as an icon at the bottom of your browser window (varies on type of browser).
10. Double click on the PDF icon to open the certificate and print it with the features of your browser's PDF handler or related PDF reader app.
11. Individual course certificates can be printed by selecting the course's abbreviation in the table below *Print an Eddept "Full Certificate"*. The courses you have completed are indicated by light blue text, whereas related functions are shown in black lettering.
12. Again, clicking on the course name's abbreviation will download a PDF file, which should be opened and printed.

While you are in the Members' section, poke around and look at the offerings. Get back to the top level by clicking on *Member Home* in the top menu bar. A help screen can be seen by clicking the upper left corner's icon of three horizontal bars in a blue field. While at the Home screen, click on *Member Benefits* to see some of the discounts you can receive by being a USPS member. The *How Do I* item on the main menu leads to a nice table of the most frequently asked questions and is a good starting place to navigate through the website.

SBSPS Overnight train trip to Vancouver, B.C. Canada

November 11-12, 2017

Join us for an after-cruising-season excursion. I urge you to make your train and hotel reservations sooner than later for the best rates and availability.

Amtrak Make your reservation via www.Amtrak.com or with "Julie" at 800-872-7245. Discounts for AAA members and seniors. Buy your ticket online or with photo ID, get your tickets at the station. As of this writing, cost for two people is US\$68 round trip.

Saturday, November 11: Amtrak Cascades Train #510 departs Mt. Vernon (MVN) at 9:26 a.m. (Paul and I will get on the train in Bellingham at 9:57 a.m. Please save us two seats! I'll have trip packets to give to you then.) After clearing customs at the train station, we'll walk a short distance from the Vancouver train station and take public transportation to near our hotels, either check in or at least leave our luggage for safekeeping. We'll be ready for lunch by then.

Saturday activities: Using public transportation,

1. go to Granville Island's shops and galleries, enjoy the cute False Creek ferries. Day pass good for all stops can be purchased on the ferries: Adult CA\$16, or Senior over 65 CA\$12. More at: <http://www.granvilleislandferries.bc.ca>.
2. stay downtown for exhibits such as:
 - . Vancouver Art Gallery, 750 Hornby Street has a special exhibit "Emily Carr: Into the Forest" 45 British Columbia paintings in the unique style of this Canadian favorite artist. The museum opens at 10 a.m. if you choose to go Sunday. Website: www.vanartgallery.bc.ca. Admission: Adult CA\$24, Senior 65+ CA\$20.
 - . Vancouver Maritime Museum's "The Lost Fleet" exhibit at 1905 Ogden Avenue at Chestnut and Cypress Streets near the Space Center. The exhibit investigates the unjust 1941 seizure of 1,200 Japanese-Canadian fishing vessels following the bombing of Pearl Harbor through photographs, models, tools and documents. Admission approx.. CA\$10. Website: www.vancouvermaritimemuseum.com.
3. Sadly, the harbor cruises end in September/October. Perhaps a day trip in 2018?

Saturday dinner will be at 6:30 p.m. at Joe Fortes Seafood & Chop House, which we enjoyed on our 2015 train trip. Joe Fortes' is located at 777 Thurlow Street near Alberni and Robson Streets. Eat as much or as little as you wish. Website: www.joefortes.ca.

Sunday, November 12: Breakfast on your own. We'll check out of our hotel by Noon. Free time to explore on your own until it is time to meet at the train station. Take public transportation to the train station.

Amtrak Cascades Train #517 leaves Vancouver at 5:35 p.m. and arrives in Mt. Vernon at 8:07 p.m. Be at the station Vancouver Pacific Central, 1150 Station Street by 5 p.m!

HOTELS: Not cheap in Vancouver. Remember our exchange rate advantage. I did several searches and the best I found for my criteria of best comparison rate, reasonable access from train station and public transportation (Sky train preferred), safe downtown neighborhood, safe walk back from restaurant Saturday night, decent amenities, and cancellation policy, was through AAA website (Priceline administered): Paul and I will be staying in a "king studio" at L'Hermitage Hotel, 788 Richards Street, direct website: www.lhermitagevancouver.com. You, of course, are free to choose your own hotel; we'll try to finalize coordinating plans on the train ride north.

TO DO: Before NOVEMBER 5 -- let me know you're coming, what hotel you'll stay in, and if you'll have Saturday dinner with us. I need to make the restaurant reservation.

It'll be rainy season so pack your umbrella and rain jackets. We recommend packing lightly with a backpack or small wheeled suitcase; you may be lugging it around. Don't forget your passports! Please bring your tolerance for possible train delays.

Questions: call Donna at 360 595-0183 or email donnajmason@gmail.com

**Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron
United States Power Squadron
Meeting Minutes, September 14, 2017**

The following squadron members were also in attendance:

Donna Mason	Paul Rosetter	Kari Randall-Secret
Debbie Richey	Bob Miller	Dan Scott
Ruth Peterson	John Bellinger	Marlene Bellinger
Sandy Johnson	George Johnson	Carolyn Caporgno
Glen Caporgno	Jack Dyer	Don Coleman
Steve Drummond	Stephen Drummond	Jean Drummond
Mark Leopold	Peggy Leopold	Nicole Leopold

*quorum present

Guest Speaker: Lori Johnson from North Harbor Diesel

Meeting location: Farmhouse Restaurant

Meeting called to order @ 1840

Invocation – Ruth Peterson

Pledge of Allegiance

Introduction of guests and speaker

Executive Officer's Report – John Bellinger

- Vessel Safety Examiner – Don Coleman
 - o Logged a couple dozen VSCs this past year.
 - o We could use another VSC...Contact Don if interested.

Squadron Education Officer's Report – Debbie Richey

- Courses:
 - o ABC Course: began Sept. 6 w/10 students @ Anacortes Marina. Down to 8 currently. Final exam Sept. 27.
 - o Seamanship Course: Bob Miller will begin teaching a Seamanship course 10/2 @ Anacortes Marina. 9 students signed up (4 from our squadron).
 - o Cruise Planning Course: Tentatively scheduled to begin spring of 2018.
 - o Operations Training: 5 students signed up from our squadron. Held at Debbie's house on Camano Island. Sept. 23rd @ 10am.
- Assistant Education Officer – Bob Miller
 - o Bob passed out completed course certificates:
 - § Jack Dyer – Piloting and Advanced Piloting
 - o Squadron computers – missing computer has been found; Bob has enabled tracking on all of the squadron computers.
 - o Bob moved we spend \$1500 to upgrade to a new projector and replace one computer. Seconded by Kari Randall-Secret.
 - § Motion passed
 - § Kudos to George Johnson for generating the revenue by selling some donated items.
 - o National is no longer sending out stickers for your educational certificate when you complete a course. Now you can print an updated version on your own, or the squadron can do it. Bob will send out the process on how to print your own.

Administrative Officer's Report – (vacant position) Donna Mason

- See the newsletter for a listing of our upcoming meetings and programs and boating activities.
- Upcoming Activities:
 - o Squadron 14th Anniversary Cookout at Cornet Bay, 9/30/17 @ 2 pm, hosted by Kari and Deanna Randall-Secret.
 - o Oct 6-8: Rosario Resort Rendezvous, hosted by Margaret and Anton Kerkhove.
 - o Nov 11-12: Vancouver Overnight Train Trip, hosted by Donna Mason and Paul Rosetter.
 - Dec 16: Leavenworth Day Trip by Bus: discount available if 4 more folks sign up, contact Donna if interested.

- Membership – Debbie Richey
 - Welcome new members: Pat Dyer, Shani Taha and Mark, Peggy and Nicole Leopold!
 - Name tags will be available at next month's meeting. Debbie will be ordering name tags for our new members also.
- Donna would like to put together a committee to update our new member packet. If interested, email Donna.
- Property Officer – George Johnson
 - Declined an offer of \$150 for pair of immersion suits that were donated.

Secretary's Report – Kari Randall-Secret

- Bitter End newsletter is out.
 - Debbie mentioned if you're sending articles to Mark for the Bitter End, please send documents to him in Word, PowerPoint or Publisher format rather than PDF format.
- Don Coleman moved we approve the minutes from June meeting, seconded by Ruth Peterson. Motion passed.
- Bob Miller sent a roster out in May and a new email list will be sent to the bridge with a couple more corrections on it.
- Scrapbook – Carolyn Caporgno and Sandy Johnson
 - Best to provide her with hard copy photos.
- Webmaster – Kari Randall-Secret: nothing new to report

Treasurer's Report – Bob Miller

- Secretary has received a copy of the current treasury report for the squadron records.
- Account balance as of end of August: \$8,767
 - Up \$3100 due to Shipwreck Day revenue
 - Expenditures last month: \$65 for nametags, \$68 for Bayhill Storage unit.
 - The squadron submitted its annual donation of \$100 to the USPS Educational Fund. A report was provided to the secretary for the squadron records.
 - New squadron checks have been ordered.
- The Executive Committee discussed regarding whether or not to raise our membership dues for next year, specifically the portion our squadron receives (\$17/yr/member).
 - Currently our total membership rates are:
 - Individual: \$98.50/1st yr, \$78.50/yr after year 1
 - Family: \$136.25/yr, \$116.25/yr after year 1
 - Apprentice: \$12/yr , \$12/yr after year 1
 - Don Coleman moved we keep the dues the same for now. Seconded by Kari Randall-Secret. Motion passed by vote of the general membership.

Commander's Report – Donna Mason

- Publicity
 - Several people worked in getting publicity out for the ABC class.
 - We are working on tying together our Facebook page and our website.

- We have squadron brochures in local retail establishments. Bob Miller will post some at the Anacortes Visitor's Center. Lori Johnson offered to post some at North Harbor Diesel.
- Donna passed out brochures/business cards to the general membership to have on hand when out boating, etc... to pass out to interested parties.
- Meeting Venue
 - Discussion regarding whether or not we should continue having our meetings at the Farmhouse Restaurant.
 - Sandy Johnson moved we continue to hold our meetings at the Farmhouse Restaurant for 2018. Carolyn Caporgno seconded. Motion passed.
- National has some new promotional videos out and we may play them for the general membership at an upcoming meeting.
- Anthony's Restaurant is going through the process of approving our burgee to be hung out at the Cabana.
- La Conner Pub has also been provided a burgee, but we have yet to verify they have hung it up.

Old Business

- District 16 Photo Contest information was provided to meeting attendees.
- Washington State Parks has asked if we're interested in joining with us to do booth-type duties where both the parks and USPS could be promoted together. No objections were made by members in this regard.
- District 16 requested us to approach the US Coast Guard Auxiliary to see if we can combine on some activities. Some members expressed reservations about working with USCG due to their recent experiences in working with them as of late. Their local flotilla has recently disbanded and they are currently suffering from low membership and burnout. There was additional discussion about the possibility of a joint rendezvous or sharing booths at boating-related events. Donna will report back to D16 that we are open to possibilities.
- Marlene Bellinger moved we make an effort to work with Washington State Parks during 2018. Seconded by Debbie Richey. Motion passed.
- Discussion regarding Shipwreck Day as our primary fundraiser and whether or not we should pursue it in 2018. George reported our storage unit is still very full and we need to have a storage unit cleaning day and that once that occurs, we may not need the storage unit any longer. George suggested we continue with at least one more Shipwreck Day for 2018 to get rid of the remaining items in the storage unit and reminded the group it is still a significant social event for the squadron. Sandy Johnson suggested we don't take any new donations unless they are high ticket items that will be easily sold. Bob Miller reported our finances can definitely continue to handle keeping the storage unit.
 - Marlene Bellinger moved we participate in Shipwreck Day for 2018, but be more selective regarding which items we take as donations. Debbie Richey seconded. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned @ 1945



"PICNIC AMERICAN STYLE"

District 16 Fall Conference
27 – 29 October 2017

116 Coast Hotel Bellevue, 625 116th Avenue NE, Bellevue, Washington



Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____ Spouse/Guest name: _____
 City/State/Zip: _____ Squadron: _____
 Email address for confirmation of registration and payment _____
 Will you be attending the District Conference without meals? YES _____
 Is this your first District Conference? YES _____

Please Note: Reservations must be postmarked no later than Friday, 20 October 2017.

Activity	No. People Total
_____	_____

Registration: 1600—1750
 Friday Reception: 1800—1900 - No Host Bar

Please attend the meals, we have a food & beverage requirement to cover the cost of the meeting rooms.

American Picnic Buffett Dinner: 1900—2200
 Featuring Hamburgers, Hotdogs, Chicken and lots of picnic food \$35 _____ \$ _____
Vegetarian "Plated" Dinner \$28 _____ \$ _____

Saturday Breakfast: 0800—0900
No Host in Restaurant/coffee shop
 There may be "morning chat sessions" for Commanders/ Exec Officers; Educational Officers/ ASEOs; PDCs & all other attendees.

Saturday Luncheon: 1200—1300
 Your choice: Cobb Salad _____ or Caesar Salad w/chicken _____
 or Barbecue Portobello Quesadilla _____ \$28 _____ \$ _____

Saturday Evening: Social: No Host Bar 1800-1900
 Banquet: 1800—2100
 Dinner: Your choice: Petite Filet Beef \$37 _____ \$ _____
 or Chicken Parmesan \$35 _____ \$ _____
 or Vegetarian Lasagna \$32 _____ \$ _____

Dietary Restrictions? _____

Total (In US Funds) \$ _____ \$ _____

Make Hotel Reservations directly with the 116 Coast Hotel Bellevue by Friday, 6 October 2017.
 After October 6th, the hotel will honor the Power Squadron rate based on availability.
 Ask for "United States Power Squadrons" room block to get the negotiated conference rate of \$105 plus taxes.

For Hotel Reservations
 116 Coast Hotel Bellevue
 625 116th Avenue NE
 Bellevue, WA 98004
 Call 425-455-9444

Payment and Conference Reservations
 Make checks payable to: **BSPS, D16 Fall Conference**
 Mail this form and payment in US funds to:
 Trudy Brown
 3220 98th Avenue NE
 Bellevue, WA 98004
 425-454-0115 Email - trudyb36@outlook.com

For questions contact **Willa Conrad, 425-466-0560 or Email: willaconrad41@gmail.com**

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 October Birthdays

Paul Rosetter Lisa Weber

~ General Meeting Information ~
<p>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.</p>

SAVE THE DATE !!!!

**“PICNIC AMERICAN STYLE”
District 16 Fall Conference
27 –29 October 2017**

116 Coast Hotel Bellevue, 625 116th Ave



NE, Bellevue, Washington

Bridge Officers		
Commander	Donna Mason, AP	360 595-1083
Executive Officer	John R. Bellinger, SN	360-757-8091
Education Officer	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Administrative Officer	Vacant	
Secretary	Kari Randall-Secretst, 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.	Glen & Carolyn Caporgno	209-484-2365
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	Kelly Libby, S	425-359-7078
Asst Public Relations	Vacant	
Radio Technical	George Brooks, SN	
Safety	George Brooks, SN	
Vessel Exams	Don Coleman	360 333-2962
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	Vacant	
Property Officer	Vacant	
Supply Officers	Margaret & Anton Kerkove	360-588-4808
Telephone	Vacant	
Secretary's Department		
Editor "Bitter End"	Mark Richey, SN	425-876-6274
Historian	Lynn Stewart, P	360-424-1270
Public Contact	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Roster	Bob Miller, JN	360-588-9950
Scrapbook	Carolyn Caporgno	
Webmaster / IT	Kari Randall-Secretst, N	360-387-1194
Auditing Committee		
1 Yr. Chair	Judy Bennett, S	707-443-2855
2 Yrs.	Billie Ford	360 941-1956
3 Yrs.	Jack Dyer	
Nominating Committee		
1 Yr. Chair	Paul Rosetter, AP	360 595-1083
2 Yrs.	George Johnson, SN	360-588-8125
3 Yrs.	Vacant	
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. **Please insure the names shown are correct!**