



# THE BITTER END

Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron  
June 2018

Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the friends <sup>SM</sup>

Web Page: [www.skagitsquadron.org](http://www.skagitsquadron.org)

Email: [ssboatschool@hotmail.com](mailto:ssboatschool@hotmail.com)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/SBSPS/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/SBSPS/)



## CALENDAR

14 June- Regular Meeting, Program Ed Marmol-Puget Sound Pilot  
22-24 June- Deer Harbor Rendezvous  
2-9 July- North Cruise includes Bellingham and S. Gulf Islands  
21 July-Come to our booth at Shipwreck Day in Anacortes



Happy Summer! This is the last regular edition until fall. I may get a mid summer one out to show our fun events. See you all on the water and be safe boaters.



### Commanders Message John Bellinger, SN

Marlene and I have just returned from a very nice cross country trip to Ohio. While we were on the road the SBSPS business just kept rolling along. Everything I asked of our Ex Comm team to take care of was done with great efficiency. I want to thank all of you for demonstrating great teamwork.

I especially want to thank Donna for running the meeting and everything else that she took care of, Debbie for stepping up to meet our obligations for the District Rendezvous, and Shani Taha for her efforts in membership retention.

Each year the Squadron commander is asked to come up with his/her goals for the year. I have decided my goals are to try to recruit at least one new instructor for education, increase meeting attendance by 5% and increase membership by three people. I hope you all agree with these goals and will help me to attain them.

As I see it our greatest challenge now is that fewer of our members have boats. This makes it very difficult for people to participate in on the water rendezvous. It is always great to sit on the dock with other squadron members and share stories and refreshments right next to your boat. We have had many fantastic rendezvous in the past and I greatly miss the adventure. Now it is up to the people who do have boats to step up and host

our rendezvous and to participate. The rest of us will have to figure out how we can participate by land. I think we have done a good job of finding meeting places where this is possible.

The problem that I see is that when you do not have a boat it is more difficult to stay motivated to keep up with all the things boaters need to know. USPS is a boating club and we need to stay focused on our main goals of boating education and safety and at the same time providing activities that are fun for all of our members.

Donna has done a fantastic job of combining on the water and land based activities for us this year. It is up to us as members to participate in these activities, to support the squadron, and enjoy the company of other members.

Boating safety and education is our number one squadron responsibility. We need more people to step forward and help with our boating classes. You do not have to teach; you can just show up and help. You benefit from proctoring the class and gain experience in how it is done. So please give Debbie a hand by volunteering to help.

I hope to see all of you at the meeting on the 14th.

## SOME LESS LOCAL BOATING



Donna caught an unusually large walleye: 27" long, 6 1/2 pounds on Bowstring Lake in Minnesota. Paul said "it's been decades since I've seen such a big walleye."

### Android Apps for Boaters – A Quick View

Lt/C Robert J Miller, JN

While fussing with my little-used Android phone today (I really am a PC person), I came across some interesting nautical apps that can help all of us. Take a look at them and play around a bit. These are free apps in the Google Play Store. There are tons of apps out there, so keep searching for that “just right” tool.

- **U.S Coast Guard, Basta Ya PR.** Nice icon-based program providing: Links to State Boating sites; Request Safety Check - sent to local unit of USCG Auxiliary; Review Safety Equipment; File a Float Plan – email to three addresses of friends and family; Rules of the Road – good summary, doesn't satisfy need for hard copy book on board boats over 39 feet; NOAA weather buoys – show status of winds, sea state, etc. on buoys in the area; Report Hazard – sends message to USCG; Report Pollution – provides reporting phone number and your current lat/lon; Report Suspicious Activity – provides reporting phone number and your current Lat/Lon.
- **Nautical Flags, Fundroid3000.** Shows the letter flags and number flags with full definitions., including the Morse code for the flag. Also shows the Beaufort Scale for winds and a weather forecast for your area (wind speeds in Beaufort or metric units)
- **Live Weather, Sherpa Mobile.** Displays data at marine weather buoys picked from map.
- **Boating HD, Navionics.** For fee Navionics charting program, must buy charts.
- **DragQueen, ActiveCaptain.** Sets alarm when you are dragging you anchor out of a specified boundary.
- **Compass and GPS, C.P.S.** Displays compass heading, Lat/Lon, GPS accuracy, altitude.
- **DigiHUD, James Moss.** Shows SOG (Speed Over Ground), compass heading, and distance driven.
- **Marine Traffic, Marine Traffic.** Displays AIS traffic from maps or by boat name. No longer on Google Play Store. Download from <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.marinetraffic.android>, no longer free.
- **Vessel Lights, Maarten Pennings.** Describes the light patterns of various types of vessels, allows for practice, and tests your knowledge.
- **FindShip, Marine Toolbox.** Map-based vessel location and AIS information. Equivalent to Marine Traffic.
- **Tides Near Me, Shelter Island Mapping Company.** Display tides currents from maps or by location. No graphical information.

The squadron website, <http://skagitsquadron.org/marinelinks.html>, under Members/Marine links has a bunch of web-based tools.

Drive that boat safely.



## Boating Activities Anton and Margaret Kerkhove

The 2018 Boating Rendezvous schedule with Hosts has been made. It is early in the year and easy internet access has people planning and booking space at marinas already. If you are hoping to join one or more of the rendezvous, please let the Rendezvous Host know. This will help the Host with planning as the marinas like to know how many boats will be attending an event. Having your input will be appreciated and can make the rendezvous more enjoyable.

If you have any questions please e-mail Anton & Margaret Kerkhove at [amsv@comcast.net](mailto:amsv@comcast.net).

Here is a list of Boating Rendezvous hosted by Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron:

June 22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> Deer Harbor Marina, Orcas Island, WA  
Hosted by Anton & Margaret Kerkhove  
Email: [amsv@comcast.net](mailto:amsv@comcast.net)

July 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Squalicum Harbor, Bellingham, WA  
Hosted by Richard Hunter  
Email: [richard@anamcaraboat.us](mailto:richard@anamcaraboat.us)

July 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> BC Canada Cruise, Poet's Cove and Ganges  
Hosted by Richard Hunter  
Email: [richard@anamcaraboat.us](mailto:richard@anamcaraboat.us)

Aug 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> Mariners Vs. Dodgers, Bell Harbor Marina, Seattle, WA  
Hosted by Kari & Deanna Randall-Secret  
Email: [kasndmr@gmail.com](mailto:kasndmr@gmail.com)

Oct 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> Rosario Resort, Orcas Island, WA  
Hosted by Kari & Deanna Randall-Secret  
Email: [kasndmr@gmail.com](mailto:kasndmr@gmail.com)

## Oak Harbor Cruise with Everett Squadron May 25<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>

I wanted you to know that the procedure for Oak Harbor has changed. They now require a list of boats 30 days before the event and a 10\$ deposit per boat. They do not accept individual payment for the 10\$ per boat, but 1 payment for all boats that are coming. The 10\$ will apply to the first nights moorage. There is no refund for No shows. So, I will need a list of those who are going by April 23<sup>rd</sup> with a 10\$ deposit for each boat. You can email the list and mail a check to me. My address is [:222 Driftwood Shores Rd. Camano Island, Wa.98282](mailto:222%20Driftwood%20Shores%20Rd.%20Camano%20Island,%20Wa.98282). Thanks much. Annette Ferguson

## Land-based Squadron Activities

P/C Donna Mason, AP

July 21, Saturday, Shipwreck Day Booth in Anacortes  
George and Sandy Johnson do a great job coordinating our squadron's double booth at this amazing street fair. It is our squadron's main fund-raising effort and gives us the opportunity to cull our stuff for donations. George will announce more information closer to the date.

September 8, Saturday, Vancouver, B.C. Canada Day Trip for the Indian Arm Luncheon Cruise aboard the Harbor Cruises Limited's "M.V. Harbor Princess." This 4-hour luncheon cruise travels through Vancouver's inner harbor, the Burrard Inlet, and then North into Indian Arm, nestled within the Coast Mountain range and protected from the open ocean. As we enjoy our lunch, we'll cruise by the panoramic vistas, the pristine Silver Falls, large waterfront homes, privately owned islands, wildlife and more. Cruise, The buffet menu is at [www.boatcruises.com](http://www.boatcruises.com). Prices are in Canadian dollars. We'll drive to Vancouver on our own; people may want to carpool. Bring your passports. Parking is available in front of the marina and costs C\$14-15/day, payable by credit card. When booking your spot, include Group "Skagit Bay" so we'll all sit together. Also, notify me that you are coming so I can confirm our group. So far 8 people are going.

November 12, Saturday, theater day trip CANCELLED – no fall offerings before Thanksgiving, but instead...  
**NEW** – November 12, Saturday, day trip to the new Nordic Museum in Seattle. We'll travel on our own to Seattle's Scandinavian enclave of Ballard to the largest museum in the United States dedicated to the history and culture of the Nordic countries. The West Coast Premier special exhibit of "The Vikings Begin" features treasures from the world's greatest collection of pre-Viking and Viking-age boat grave finds. The museum is open Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. General admission is \$15, Seniors \$12, Students with ID and Youth K-12 \$10. We'll meet at the museum at 10:30 a.m. Following we'll enjoy lunch in a nearby restaurant, and you can bring home some Scandinavian lefsa, lutefisk, or other goodies from Scandinavian Specialties.

November 22-25, Thanksgiving Weekend RVing at Fort Casey and Day trips. Hostess Sandy Johnson will announce activities closer to the date.

December 8, Saturday, LaConner Lighted Boat Parade and SBSPS Holiday Party - Estimated but unconfirmed date of the lighted boat parade. LaConner Pub already has us on the schedule for our party.

**Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron  
United States Power Squadron  
Change of Watch - Meeting Minutes  
May 10, 2018**

The following squadron members were in attendance:

Debbie Richey	Billie Ford	Craig Ford	Bob Miller
Donna Mason	Stephen Drummond	Don Coleman	Jeanne Drummond
Carolyn Caporgno	George Johnson	Jack Dyer	Steve Drummond
Kari Randall-Secrest	Glen Caporgno	Dan Scott	Ed West
Paul Rosetter	Marie Ackerman		

\*quorum present

The following guests were in attendance:

Jo Wolf and Mary Densmore from the Skagit Historical Society

Meeting location: Farmhouse Restaurant

Meeting called to order by Donna Mason in Cdr John Bellinger's absence: 1830

Flag salute led by Steve Drummond

Executive Officer's Report – Donna Mason for Kelly Libby

o Marketing – Donna Mason reported on our booth at the recent Mount Vernon Street Fair. The Skagit River Salmon Festival will be held Sept. 8th, however it is held the same day as our Vancouver, B.C. Cruise. If anyone not attending the cruise would like to help do some marketing at the Salmon Festival, contact Donna Mason.

o Safety – Donna Mason for George Brooks reminded everyone that National Safe Boating Week is approaching and May 18<sup>th</sup> is "Wear Your Life Jacket to Work Day".

Vessel Safety Exams – Don Coleman reported that we received two VSC referrals from the Street Fair and reminded the group we still need another vessel safety examiner so contact Don if interested.

Squadron Educational Officer's Report – Debbie Richey

- Piloting course is going well and the exam is in 3 weeks.
- ABC will be starting in June, instructed by George Johnson and held at Anacortes City Hall Council Chambers. Two students signed up so far.
- Operations Training will likely be held in September 2018.

Debbie stated we still need more instructors so if you're interested, please contact Debbie.

Administrative Officer's Report – Carolyn Caporgno

- Meetings & Programs:
  - o Tonight – Skagit Valley Museum will present on the Maritime History of the Skagit Valley
  - o June – Capt. Ed Marmol, Puget Sound Pilot
  - o September – D16 Commander Dr. Mahmoud Abdel-Monem
  - o Boating Activities: Carolyn Caporgno for Margaret & Anton Kerkhove
  - o See the newsletter or website and let Margaret & Anton know if you're planning to attend an event but upcoming are:
    - ✦ D16, June 8-10. Debbie will take care of providing the \$50 raffle item and dessert for our squadron.
    - ✦ Deer Harbor, June 22-24
    - ✦ Land-based activity update: the 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Theatre trip in November has been changed since the theatre is on a break during that time to a day trip to the new Nordic Museum in Seattle and will be showing an exhibit on the Vikings.
    - ✦ Sept. 8 Vancouver, B.C., Canada Luncheon Cruise
    - ✦ Supply Officers: Carolyn and Glen Caporgno
  - o New burgees are available for \$25.

We have a few older t-shirts available for \$10.

Secretary's Report – Kari Randall-Secrest:

- Ed West suggested we revise the April meeting minutes to include the tables as a thank-you gift to the Anacortes Marina for providing us with a great location for our classes.

- April general meeting minutes approved w/revision above – motion by Debbie Richey, seconded by Billie Ford.
  - April Ex. Com. meeting minutes approved – motion by Debbie Richey, seconded by Donna Mason.
  - Scrapbook – Carolyn is available tonight for your enjoyment and as always send any photos to Carolyn.
- Webmaster - We'll soon be switching to a white background on the website which is best for printing. Send any website corrections to Kari.

#### Treasurer's Report – Bob Miller

- An audit report was submitted by Jack Dyer, Chair of the Auditing Committee, to the Secretary. The committee, along with Treasurer Bob Miller, conducted an audit of the squadron's books on 4/27/18 to review records for the previous fiscal year. All squadron books found to be in good order with no discrepancies noted and discussion was held regarding transfer of squadron books from a manual checkbook and Excel spreadsheets system to an accounting software system and agreed the squadron should look into it. Thank you to Auditing Committee members Sandy Johnson and Marlene Bellinger.
  - Current account balance: \$7,748.35
  - o Income last month primarily due to class registrations.
  - o Expenditures due to purchase of books for the upcoming ABC course.
  - o Bob provided a revised draft budget for the upcoming fiscal year for review and asked the Ex. Com. to review and discuss 2 revisions:
    - o Discussion regarding the addition of \$100 for our contribution to National for the Century Fund (a fund to assist with Education expenses) in addition to the \$100 we already contribute annually to National's Education Fund. Furthermore, donating to the Century Fund can help our Commander get another point towards his Commander's Challenge.
    - o Discussion regarding recommendation by the Auditing Committee to budget \$50/year for a license of QuickBooks accounting software.
    - o Debbie Richey moved the Exec. Com. accept these additional changes to the squadron draft budget, seconded by Donna Mason. Motion approved by vote of Ex. Com.
- After a call for discussion, Donna Mason moved the General Membership approve adoption of the budget approved by Ex. Com. tonight. Seconded by Debbie Richey. Motion approved by vote of General Membership.

#### Commander's Report – Donna Mason for John Bellinger

Please review the roster and let Bob know if you have any contact/boat information changes to be made. The roster will soon be sent to D16.  
Next month's June meeting will be held at the Farmhouse Restaurant, not in Anacortes as in recent years.

#### Old Business

None

#### New Business

Craig Ford will make arrangements with anyone that would like blueberries for their freezer ... contact Craig for more information if interested.

Meeting adjourned: 1903



#### Education Department D/Lt/C Debbie Richey, AP

Welcome to Summer! I hope you get a chance to get out on your boat and put to use those new skills you've learned.

Piloting has ended and the exams are ready to send in. Our ABC class has started with a strong group of students. Thank you George Johnson and Bob Miller for getting it all set up. We are teaching this ABC class in the city council chambers for the city of Anacortes.

Did you know that USPS offers some really cool seminars on-line? Here is the link: <https://americasboatingclub.org/education-matters/online-boating-education/>

This fall we will get back to teaching classes. See you out on the water!

# New flag meant to protect endangered Southern Resident orcas

As reported by the Associated Press and the “San Juan Islander” May 25, a new “whale warning flag” will be flown by boats and select land stations along the west side of San Juan Island to let boaters know that whales are in the area. The yellow and red flags featuring a black whale tale are part of initiatives to increase protection of endangered Southern Resident orcas.

New guidelines call for vessels to remain at least ½ mile from the Lime Kiln State Park light house and ¼ mile from shore along the west side of San Juan Island from Mitchell Point to Cattle Point. Boat speed should be 7 knots or less within one kilometer or 0.65 mile of a whale. Boaters require vessels to stay at least 200 yards from killer whales and stay out of their paths.



NOAA Fisheries’ research indicate that a boat’s speed, not necessarily the size of its engine, is the main factor in determining how much noise it emits underwater. Vessel traffic and noise are among the main threats to the Southern Resident killer whale population. The other threats are availability of Chinook salmon, chemical pollutants and contaminants.

Submitted by P/C Donna Mason, AP

## Boaters Asked to Avoid Orca Area

By P/C Donna Mason, AP

According to David Rasbach’s article in “The Bellingham Herald” May 10, The Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife has asked that anglers and other boaters avoid an area along the west side of San Juan Island. Our southern resident population of orcas is endangered, and its population has dwindled from only 98 whales in 1995 to only 76 in December 2017. How sad!

Major threats to our orcas:

- human impacts
- Lack of food—primarily chinook salmon
- need for a quiet for foraging and socializing
- the effects of toxic contaminants (including micro plastics)
- disturbance from vessel traffic
- vessel and jet noise

A goal is to educate anglers, recreational and commercial boaters about the “no-go” zone which is voluntary at this time. That zone extends ¼ mile offshore from Mitchell Bay in the north to Cattle Point at the southern tip of San Juan Island to ½ mile offshore around the Lime Kiln Lighthouse.

## 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.®**

<b>Happy June</b>	<b>Birthdays</b>
	<b>Marlene Bellinger</b> <b>Cliff Cochran</b> <b>Bob Miller</b> <b>Ann Wilder</b>

**~ 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.

## NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ALWAYS NEEDED

**Articles are due no later than the week before the regular meeting at the Executive Board Meeting if it is held otherwise they are due no later than the Saturday before the regular meeting. Earlier is always better as it is hard to wait for last minute for everything. I try to send it out the Sunday before the meeting but would do it earlier if complete.**

**Please send them to the address at the top of the Bitter End. It is a clickable link and will open the address for you.**

**Thanks,**

**P/D/C Mark Richey, SN  
Your Editor**

<b>Bridge Officers</b>		
Commander	John R. Bellinger, SN	360-757-8091
Executive Officer	Kelly Libby, S	425-359-7078
Education Officer	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Administrative Officer	Carolyn Caporgno	209-484-2365
Secretary	Kari Randall-Secrest, N	360 387-1194
Treasurer	Bob Miller, JN	360-588-9950
<b>Executive Committee</b>		
	Marlene Bellinger, AP	360 757-8091
	Paul Rosetter, AP	360 595-1083
	Sandy Johnson, P	360-588-8125
	Donna Mason, AP	360 595-1083
<b>Commander Department</b>		
Chaplain	Ruth Peterson, SN	360-293-1888
Flag Lt.	Steve Drummond	
Port Captain	Vacant	
Law Officer	Vacant	
Merit Marks	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
	Vacant	
	Vacant	
<b>Executive Department</b>		
Co-Op Charting	Mark Richey, SN	425-876-6274
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	
	Bill Stewart	
Vessel Exams	Don Coleman	360 333-2962
Marketing	Donna Mason, AP	360 595-1083
<b>Education Department</b>		
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
<b>Administrative Department</b>		
Boating Activities	Donna Mason, AP	360 595-1083
Rendezvous	Margaret & Anton Kerkhove	360-588-4808
Greeting	Craig Ford	360 333-5308
	Billie Ford	360 941-1956
Membership	Shani Taha	
Operations Training	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Programs	Carolyn Caporgno	209-484-2365
Property Officer	George Johnson, SN	360-588-8125
Supply Officer	Glen Caporgno	209-484-2365
<b>Secretary's Department</b>		
Editor "Bitter End"	Mark Richey, SN	425-876-6274
Historian	George Johnson, SN	360-588-8125
Public Contact	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Roster	Bob Miller, JN	360-588-9950
Scrapbook	Carolyn Caporgno	209-484-2365
Webmaster / IT	Kari Randall-Secrest, N	360-387-1194
<b>Auditing Committee</b>		
1 Yr. Chair	Vacant	
2 Yrs.	Jack Dyer	
3 Yrs.	Marlene Bellinger	
<b>Nominating Committee</b>		
1 Yr. Chair	George Johnson, SN	360-588-8125
2 Yrs.	Donna Mason, AP	360 595-1083
3 Yrs.	Vacant	
<b>Rules Committee</b>		
1 Yr. Chair	John Bellinger, SN	360-757-8091
2 Yrs.	Donna Mason, AP	
3 Yrs.	Vacant	

Please note the vacancies. You don't need an advanced grade. 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.  
**If you don't show a phone number and want it to show, please let us know.**