



THE BITTER END

Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron January 2019

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

Web Page: www.skagitsquadron.org

Email: ssboatschool@hotmail.com

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



CALENDAR

- 10 Jan—Regular Meeting, Farmhouse, Activity Planning
- 25 Jan—2 Feb, - Big Seattle Boat Show
- 07 Feb—Executive Board Meeting
- 09 Feb— ABC Class Begins, Anacortes Marina



Happy New Year. Come to the next meeting if you have ideas of what/where you might want to go this year. Don't forget the Boat Show. Volunteers needed



Commanders Message Cdr. John Bellinger, SN

Happy New Year! I hope all of you had safe and enjoyable 2018 boating season. Now we are on to a new year's activities in SBSPS. Your Bridge members have been working overtime to make this new year a successful one. Donna has come up with some new ideas for getting our Squadron out in the public eye and to promote boating safety. Debbie and Bob have scheduled more public boating classes which have become very popular. Carolyn has some great programs scheduled for our enjoyment and enlightenment. Now it is up to all of us to help make these activities successful.

The membership is the key to any squadron's success. Your involvement is essential to all these activities. Your attendance at meetings is the first and easiest way to get involved. By being present you are supporting these efforts. You bring new ideas and help us decide what we need to do to make the squadron more supportive of your needs.

We need people to help with the ABC classes. This is a great way to get your feet wet as instructors. Teaching our boating classes is very rewarding and it is an essential part of our charter. I can tell you for sure that by teaching you learn more than the students.

We have decided to upgrade our computer and projector for our program and class presentations. This will allow us to utilize the latest improvements in computer technology.

Donna has put together a great program for us to plan our activities for 2019 at our meeting on Thursday January 10th at the Farmhouse. I hope all of you will come and enjoy the evening and help us put together a fantastic year.



Education Department Lt/C Debbie Richey, AP

Welcome to 2019! Hasn't this been a windy winter?! I hope your boat is tied securely using that great marlinspike education! There are many books and apps that teach you how to tie knots if you have forgotten. And don't forget your canvas on the boat! I have gone to my boat a couple of times to see a window cover flapping in the breeze because I forgot to twist a fastener to the closed position.

Our next ABC class will be February 9, 16, and 23. Bob Miller did a survey of the students from the previous class and they liked the Saturday format. So we will try it again for this next class. We have already signed 5 students from the last class waitlist. There is a new seminar on Radar that we will teach in March and in April we will start teaching the new Boat Handling course.



THE GANG AT THE LACONNER TAV FOR THE BOAT PARADE

(Note the holiday socks)



Using NEXUS to Cross the US Canada Border by boat both ways, our Experience

We took a trip to Sidney BC last summer and used our NEXUS Cards for the first time by boat. We based it on instructions from the web published by both governments. We had done it many times by car. It was a breeze and a joy by boat and this is what we did.

Heading into Canada

Our ultimate destination was Sidney but you could use that, or any other port of entry, as a waypoint. This was what we did and it worked well.

First, for this to work, everyone on board must have a NEXUS Pass. If not then the boat MUST stop at a port of entry and not use this process.

As we headed west around the end of San Juan Island, we set a waypoint where the International Border was. You need a minimum of 30 minutes to maximum of 4 hours to a designated port of entry. We waited a bit too long and were less than 30 minutes out when we called but it worked ok. When you are in Canada but between 30 mins and 4 hrs estimated out, the skipper must call Nexus at **1-866-99-NEXUS**.

They asked for our ETA and location of landing site. It must be on the “**designated site**” list which “Port of Sidney BC” was. (A hint here, if it’s on your way, you may want to pick a check in site that isn’t regularly manned as you won’t actually have to touch shore or dock if nobody is there.) We would suggest, and this is only opinion, you don’t pick Bedwell Harbor as that is the training site for Canada Customs and is always manned possibly with rookies.

They asked us for name and/or registration of boat. Since we are documented we only gave name. They also asked for the full names, DOB and citizenship of all NEXUS members on board as well as final destination and length of stay.

They finally asked for our NEXUS numbers.

They did not ask for permanent residence status or if we had any goods but they may.

They then gave us an entry number and said welcome to Canada. You need to keep the number for return to US. That was it.

The skipper is still responsible for the behavior, legality and administrative issues of all the passengers and if anything changes before actual arrival, needs to call in again.

The rules state that if an officer is not at the specified entry site at your ETA or at your actual arrival, you may proceed to final destination. Sidney is a phone in Port of Entry with a phone box on dock and is rarely manned unless they have come down to inspect someone for some reason. We only had to drive by the dock on way to our slip and saw that there were no officials there. The harbormaster told us that actually, once we had our number, we didn’t even need to bother to do that. That may have been only Sidney but in any case, there was nobody official visible.

Returning to US Waters

A couple of suggestions to make life easier with this. Before you even leave on the trip you should consider doing 2 things.

- 1) If you are 30' or longer get a CPB user fee decal. This is yearly. You can purchase it when you call in your arrival but this makes it much easier and you won't have to have your credit card ready.
- 2) Call CPB and get a VR number. You may have to use ROAM to do this now but it's handy. That basically puts all your boat info etc. in the system and they may not even ask you some of the questions. One of the first questions we were asked is if we had that number.

Ok. This was just as easy as going into Canada. It was somewhat different but similar.

We came back from Canada the same way we went in by going around north end of San Juan Island. There is no time limit on this and you just need to call in after entering US water but before you reach a port or anchorage. (This is only for Alternate Inspection Programs like NEXUS).

I called CPB at **1-800-562-5943** someplace in Spieden Channel. This number is for Puget Sound arrivals only.

This is what was asked of us in order:

- 1) Our full names, date of birth and citizenship
- 2) Boat name and registration as well as manufacturer.
- 3) Did we have a VR number? (If we had they may have reduced some of the questions)
- 4) CPB decal number. (If we did not have one we could pay for it right now during the call and the sticker would be mailed)
- 5) Current location (This is your GPS coordinates) and destination. Your destination does not have to be a valid port of entry, just where you plan on ending up that day.
- 6) Finally they asked for a return contact number and gave us our clearance number.

They asked no questions about declaring anything or if we were bringing in food or anything. I imagine that they could but chose not to. The guy I spoke to was very friendly and helpful about how to get VR info etc. He walked me through giving current location as I had originally thought it was something like "North End Of San Juan Island". It may have been I was a first timer but he was very cheerful.

That was it, we were cleared. We did not have to do anything else. They could have asked us to stop at the nearest port of entry but have heard this is rare doing it this way.

Again, everyone on board has to have a NEXUS card.

Note: There is a new smartphone app, CPB ROAM, to try for methods other than NEXUS for Washington and Alaska but the above method will still work.

By P/D/C Mark Richey, SN

Ref: <https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/prog/nexus/marine-maritime-eng.html>
<https://www.cbp.gov/travel/pleasure-boats-private-flyers/pleasure-boat-locations/psound-ne-wa>

HELP WANTED Vessel Safety Examiners

Do you like looking at other boats? Going on board to see what's inside an interesting boat? Want to help people be safe on the water? Do this at your convenience? Contribute some of your time to help our squadron with vessel safety checks. Currently we have no one to offer help in this important area of our public service. We need YOU!

You don't need an engineering degree! Any USPS member who is at least 18 years old may become a VE by attending a training session, passing a proctored open-book test, and performing five VSCs under the supervision of a certified Vessel Examiner (either USPS or USCGA). The open-book test may also be taken online at <http://www2.USPS.org/VE/usps-ve-test.asp>. If interested, please contact Cdr John Bellinger jr.bellinger@frontier.com.



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Donna Mason

Squadron Activities P/C Donna Mason, AP

January 10 Activities Planning at The Members Meeting

Join us at The Farmhouse for the January Members Meeting and our program: Activities Planning. We welcome suggestions for places to go, things to do, and fun to have. We'll plan our 2019 activities, both boating and land-based, and you'll be able to leave with a plan for the year. Hope to see you there. The full listing will be in the February "Bitter End" and on our squadron website.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: June 30, 2019 Boating Safety Day for the General Public followed by Members Potluck Picnic

Instead of a June Members Meeting on the second Thursday of June, we'll have a special, full day of activities on Saturday, June 30, at the Seafarers' Memorial Park Building, next to the water at 601 Seafarers' Way off 100 Commercial Avenue near Cap Sante Marina, Anacortes. Join us for the full day or come for the potluck picnic in the afternoon.

We'll start the day with a Safe Boating Day in the sheltered building: information tables and sign-ups for classes, membership, vessel safety checks; how-to demonstrations for selecting the correct life jackets for adults and children; samples of safety gear and charts; and other demonstrations of safe boating practices for the general public. We need members to step up and help with the planning and doing this important squadron safety event. Please contact Donna Mason, donnajmason@gmail.com, if you are interested. The more the merrier! At 4 p.m. we'll switch to a members only potluck picnic at this wonderful facility. We'd love to have you participate in the Boating Safety Day, but if you can only come for the picnic, that's fine too. We hope to see you there.

United States
Power Squadrons[®]
United States Coast Guard Auxiliary



Skagit Bay Sail
and Power
Squadron



USPS America's Boating Course

Anacortes Marina, 2415 T Ave, Anacortes
upstairs classroom

Saturdays, February 9, 16, 23, 2019

9:00 am to 1:00 p.m.

The US Coast Guard-approved *America's Boating Course* provides you with basic boating knowledge to decide what type and size boat you need, what to do when meeting another boat in a crowded waterway, and how to recognize and handle hazards. Become a more competent boater, learn from the best, and enroll in *America's Boating Course* today. Many boat insurance companies will offer discounts on boating insurance to boaters who successfully complete *America's Boating Course*. And, this course provides a sound basis for continuing your recreational boating education.

What's Included? For both sail and power boats, *ABC* covers a wide range of topics:

- Types of boats and their uses,
- Boating laws, both Federal and State,
- Safety equipment, both required and recommended,
- Finding your way, and adverse conditions,
- Communications,
- Trailering, knots and lines,
- Water sports topics.

The course materials include a 174-page *Student Guide*. The course is completed by taking three four-hour sessions, including the final exam. Successful completion of the final exam allows students to apply for their Washington State Boaters Card, required for anyone born after Jan 1, 1955, and operating a vessel with a 15HP motor or greater.

\$55 for individuals or \$65 for two sharing a book

Contact Bob Miller at 360-588-9950 or

bobmillerwa@hotmail.com

Registration closes January 26, 2019

Class is limited to 15 students

Followed by the newly created *Boat Handling* class in early 2019



District 16 Spring Conference

Friday, March 8th and
Saturday, March 9th 2019

Bellevue Hilton

PRE-CONFERENCE EVENTS

Boehm's Candy Factory tour in Issaquah. Transportation leaves hotel at 1230.

Continue afternoon tour with a trip to view beautiful Snoqualmie Falls.

Cost \$30 (includes admission to Boehm's and transportation)

OR

"Walk on the Wild Side" guided tour led by Susan Tarpley, Everett's own naturalist.

Tour group will carpool to Mercer Slough and begin an interpretative walk of approximately 1.5 hour.

Walk is rated as EASY. Dress for outdoors, wear hiking boots / shoes. Bring your binoculars, water, field guides and explorers inquisitiveness. Will cancel if high winds and very cold temps occur.

Meet in lobby 1215

Cost - One Smile

Group size limited to 15

OR

Shop 'til you drop. Visit Bellevue Square and the Shops at the Bravern. Transportation provided by hotel shuttle.

FRIDAY EVENING

Get ready to party! Wear your comfy clothes to a D16 picnic with adult beverages at a no host bar and entertainment led by Seattle's AO Robert Dahlin.

Join in for an Old Fashioned Cake Walk made new... D16 Wine Walk

Cost \$10 (guaranteed to win a great bottle of wine)

Caution! Laughing and having fun is required.

Sign up for Per-conference Events on PayPal
at www.everettsailandpowersquadron.com

See You There!





District 16 Spring Conference

Friday, March 8th - Saturday, March 9th 2019

Bellevue Hilton, 300 112th Ave SE, Bellevue WA 98004

Full Name: _____ Guest/Spouse Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Squadron: _____

Email address for registration/payment confirmation: _____

Attending Conference without meals? _____ Is this your first time attending a District Conference _____

| | Before 15 Feb. | After 15 Feb. | No. People | Total |
|--|----------------|---------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Friday Evening 1800 - 2100 (No Host Bar) Hot dogs, Hamburgers, Condiments, Potato salad, House green salad, Dessert | \$30.00 | \$33.00 | _____ | _____ |
| Saturday (Breakfast on Your Own) | | | | |
| Saturday Lunch 1200 - 1300 Soup du jour, Season greens with bacon bits, Mushrooms, Shredded cheddar cheese, Cucumbers, Tomatoes, Hard boiled egg, Diced turkey, Diced chicken, Rolls & Dessert | \$28.00 | \$30.00 | _____ | _____ |
| Saturday Evening Banquet 1800 - 2130 (No Host Bar) All dinners include Herbed roasted potatoes, Season Vegetable, Rolls, Tiramisu, Coffee/Tea | | | | |
| Salmon, Soy ginger glaze | \$42.00 | \$45.00 | _____ | _____ |
| Pork loin, Dijon mustard sauce | \$42.00 | \$45.00 | _____ | _____ |
| | | | Number of People _____ | Total \$ _____ |

Do you have any food allergies? _____

Hotel Reservations for Bellevue Hilton 300 112th Ave. SE, Bellevue, WA 98004 ~ 1-800-643-7907

Must be made by 6th February 2019 to guarantee a room. Use Group Code: D16 CI for the conference rate.

Room rate is \$119.00 per night plus 14.4% tax. After 6th February, rooms are reserved as space available.

The Bellevue Hilton is Pet-friendly

Make all checks payable to Everett Sail and Power Squadron (ESPS) Mail registration to Susan Tarpley,
13423 51st Ave. West Edmonds, WA 98026

You may also pay for meals by PayPal at www.everettsailandpowersquadron.com

(Go to website menu for registration form)

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.®

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>Happy January Birthdays</p>  | <p>Laurel Cochran Jean Miller Kari Randall-Secret Cheryl Scott James Scott</p> |
|--|---|

~ 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**

| Bridge Officers | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| 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 | 206-609-1182 |
| Secretary | Kari Randall-Secret, 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 |
| | Donna Mason, AP | 360 595-1083 |
| Commander Department | | |
| Chaplain | Ruth Peterson, SN | 360-293-1888 |
| Flag Lt. | Steve Drummond | |
| Port Captain | Vacant | 360-387-1260 |
| Law Officer | Vacant | |
| Merit Marks | Debbie Richey, AP | |
| | Vacant | |
| | Vacant | |
| Executive Department | | |
| 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 |
| 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 |
| Rendezvous | Vacant | |
| 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 | 206-609-1182 |
| Property Officer | George Johnson, SN | 360-588-8125 |
| Supply Officer | Glen Caporgno | 209-484-2365 |
| Secretary's Department | | |
| 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 | 206-609-1182 |
| Webmaster / IT | Kari Randall-Secret, N | 360-387-1194 |
| Auditing Committee | | |
| 1 Yr. Chair | Vacant | |
| 2 Yrs. | Jack Dyer | |
| 3 Yrs. | Marlene Bellinger | |
| Nominating Committee | | |
| 1 Yr. Chair | George Johnson, SN | 360-588-8125 |
| 2 Yrs. | Donna Mason, AP | 360 595-1083 |
| 3 Yrs. | Vacant | |
| Rules Committee | | |
| 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.