

THE BITTER END

Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron
March 2019

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

Web Page: www.skagitsquadron.org

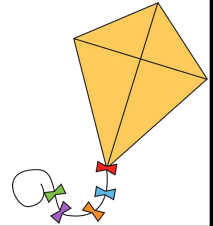
Email: ssboatschool@hotmail.com

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CALENDAR

- 14 March—Regular Meeting, Elections, Robert Perry Program
- 16 March—Friday Harbor Day Trip, Dinner at Cask & Schooner
- 03 April—Exec Board Meeting, Farmhouse, Restaurant
- 05 April—RSVP Cutoff for Change of Watch
- 06 April—Langley (WA) Day Trip, Lunch at Primo Bistro



Happy March! Almost Spring. It definitely had one little spurt of coming in like a lion but sure has "niced up". Busy month for get togethers. Some of you new members really might like some of these things. Great program this month.



Commanders Message Cdr. John Bellinger, SN

I hope you have stayed warm and cozy during our winter of snow here in the beautiful Skagit Valley. It is a time of year when we all need to make sure our boats are protected from freezing temperatures. I know some of our members use a simple light bulb to keep the area warm and dry. Some of you use small space heaters to do the job. Just make sure you have a good shore power connection as the current drawn by these heaters can cause heat to build up at the plug if it does not have very good contact. There have been many boat fires caused by this situation.

Another month has passed, and our ED department has been busy as usual. They had a successful Basic Boating Class in Anacortes and everyone passed who took the test. Now they are off on another adventure with a brand new "Radar for Boaters" class starting on March 23rd which is already full.

Some of us are off to the District 16 Spring conference at the Bellevue Hilton. We will be discussing how to effectively maintain our current members while attempting to attract new members to the Squadron. Donna Mason has been working very diligently to make this happen in our Squadron and I very much appreciate her efforts.

If any of you are interested in getting an Amateur Radio license the Radio Amateurs of Skagit County radio club is conducting a Technician class license course in Burlington starting on April 15th. If you are interested in taking the class let me know.

Hope to see all of you at the meeting on Thursday the 14th at the Farmhouse Restaurant. Our program will be about "Yacht Design" by Bob Perry.



Education Department Lt/C Debbie Richey, AP

Well we have had some snowy last couple of weeks! During this time we taught ABC and all the students passed. Bob Miller took an informal poll of the class to see if we could make improvements. The students liked the three Saturday format and the team teaching. They said they enjoyed the different perspectives of each instructor.

In a few weeks we will be starting the Radar Class over three Saturdays. The class is full with a waiting list of students. As the incoming SEO, Bob Miller is working on a schedule of classes for the upcoming year. Watch this column for more information.

Bridge Officers

Commander
P/D/C Mark Richey, SN

Exec Officer
Kelly Libby, S

Ed Officer
Robert Miller, JN

Admin Officer
Carolyn Caporgno, S

Secretary
Wayne Williams

Treasurer
Jack Dyer, P

Executive Committee

John Bellinger, SN
Marlene Bellinger, AP
Sandy Johnson, P
Paul Rosetter, AP

Commander Department

Chaplain
P/D/C Ruth Peterson, SN

Flag Lieutenant
Steve Drummond

Merit Marks
Debbie Richey, AP

Exec Department

Co-Op Charting
P/D/C Mark Richey, SN

Liaison
Debbie Richey, AP

Marketing
Donna Mason, AP

Public Relations
Kelly Libby, S

Radio Technical
George Brooks, SN

Safety Committee
Don Coleman
Bill Stewart, JN

Vessel Exams
(Vacant)

Educational Department

Asst Ed Officer
Debbie Richey, AP

Local Board Public Boating
George Johnson, SN

Local Board Adv Grades
George Brooks, SN

Local Board Elective
Courses
John Bellinger, SN

Administrative Department

Boating Activities
Donna Mason, AP

Greetings
Sandy Johnson, P

Membership
Shani Taha, S

Operations Training
Debbie Richey, AP

Programs
Carolyn Caporgno, S

Property Officer
George Johnson, SN

Supply Officer
Glen Caporgno

Secretary Department

Editor
P/D/C Mark Richey, SN

Historian
George Johnson, SN

Scrapbooker
Carolyn Caporgno, S

Roster
Robert Miller, JN

Webmaster
Kari Randall-Secrest, N

Auditing Committee

1 yr (vacant)
2 yr Marlene Bellinger, AP
3 yr Jeannie Drummond

Nominating Committee

1 yr Donna Mason, AP
2 yr George Johnson, SN
3 yr John Bellinger, SN

Rules Committee

1 yr John Bellinger, SN
2 yr Donna Mason, AP
3 yr (vacant)

The Squadron Nominating Committee respectfully submits these for your consideration at the March Meeting. Only the Officers and 3 yr committee members and chairs need the vote of the members.

Squadron Activities 2019

By P/C Donna Mason, AP

BREAKING NEWS – Literally

Yes, there's news about some of our squadron activities, but the literal part is that Paul had an accident with a bad New Orleans sidewalk and ended up with a huge black eye, stitches on his cheek, broken glasses and a broken bone in his writing arm. We kept telling the doctors in the hospital Emergency Room we had a wedding to go to at 5 p.m. They co-operated, and we made it with 45 minutes to spare. He looks like a pirate in the wedding pictures. We hope he'll be out of the fiberglass splint by our March day trip.

NEWS: We are invited again this year as one of the nonprofits to participate in the Mount Vernon Tulip Festival Street Fair at no cost, so we'll have a squadron booth all three days, April 19-21.

March 16 Anacortes to Friday Harbor Ferry Day Trip, rain or shine, hosted by Paul Rosetter and Donna Mason

Most of us will walk on the ferry, which is on its Winter 2019 schedule until March 30. The ferry leaves Anacortes at 9:25 a.m. arrives in Friday Harbor at 11:30 a.m. We'll explore on our own around this interesting town and meet at 3:30 p.m. at the Cask & Schooner Public House at 1 Front Street, which is within walking distance to the ferry. We'll start with happy hour drinks easing into "Lunner" (lunch/dinner) at 4 p.m. so we can make the 5:25 p.m. ferry back to Anacortes which will arrive at 7 p.m. Some members of the Friday Harbor squadron may join us. Check out the menu at: plac-es.singleplatform.com. Email donnajmason@gmail.com if you're interested in going. We need a head count by March 9.

April 6 Langley Day Trip, hosted by Paul and Donna

Still a little early to be out in your boat? Join us for a driving trip to the picturesque village of Langley on Whidbey Island. Carpooling encouraged. We'll poke around town on our own: look down at the marina to see boats coming in to dock in tight space, visit the local shops, antique shops, resale shops, and meet us at Noon upstairs at Prima Bistro for a gourmet lunch from the "best hamburgers in the world" to French fare. See their menu at <http://primabistro.com>. After lunch, you'll want to walk around town a bit. RSVP to donnajmason@gmail.com if you'd like to attend.

April 19-21 Mt. Vernon Tulip Festival Booth

We'll be there! Please help with Friday set-up, booth duty 3 days, dismantling Sunday afternoon, followed by dinner in a nearby pub. Last year over 5,000 people attended the street fair. It is a great way to create awareness of our organization and what we offer.

May 3-5 Sidney, B. C. Canada Weekend, hosted by Bob and Jean Miller. Cancelled due to Victoria Boat Show being moved to Sidney that weekend. No room for us! Possible reschedule for a later date.

June 21-23 District 16 Rendezvous, Poulsbo, information will be announced by D16. Check their website: <https://www.uspsd16.org>. If you plan to go by boat, make your slip reservation asap.

June 30, Sunday, Boating Safety Day Festival and June Members Meeting/Picnic, Anacortes

This replaces our June monthly meeting usually held the second Thursday of the month. Our squadron has rented the Seafarers' Memorial Park Building off Commercial Avenue for the entire day. First, beginning late morning, we'll have a Safety Day Festival, open to the public for people of all ages: tables with information, people to answer questions, demonstrations (of proper fitting life vest, for example), boating safety class for kids, coloring books for kids, i.e. items of interest to all types of boaters and water craft users. We'll be inside a sheltered building next to the water near Cap Sainte Marina. This is an opportunity to educate about boating safety, introduce our organization to the public, and entice people to take classes, come to our meetings, and become members. We hope many squadron members will take part. Then about 4 p.m., we will close down to the general public and convert our space for our June meeting and potluck picnic for Squadron members and spouses/partners/children. It will be a fun, rewarding day. Hope you'll join us. If you are unable to participate in the Festival, you still can join us for the potluck picnic meeting. Email donnajmason@gmail.com to participate.

July 13, Coronet Bay Crab Cookout, at Deception State Park, by car or boat, hosted by Kari and Deanna Randall-Secret who will announce details later. We have the shelter reserved for the day, so this will be rain or shine. This is not a State Parks free day, so you'll need a parking permit.

July 20, Shipwreck Day in Anacortes We'll be there again this year! Contact George and Sandy Johnson if you have items to donate.

August 23-25, Seattle Mariners vs. Toronto & Bell Harbor Marina Rendezvous, by car or boat, hosted by Kari and Deanna Randall-Secrest and Mark and Debbie Richey.

Game time is 6:10 p.m. on Saturday, August 24, but come early and join in other festivities, TBA.

September 14 Diablo Lake and Lunch Cruise, hosted by Paul and Donna

Seattle City Light knows we're interested, but it is too early to be able to reserve. This scenic and educational cruise, on the Alice Ross IV, has been on the wish list for several members; we hope to make it happen this year. Last year's rates were \$42 adult, \$40 Senior (62+), Youth 3-12 \$21. The cruise includes an organic, locally-sourced lunch at the North Cascades Environmental Learning Center on Diablo Lake. These tours fill up quickly. If you're interested, email don-najmason@gmail.com. We would drive on our own to the departure point; carpooling encouraged.

September 28, Coronet Bay, Deception State Park, Squadron Anniversary Cookout, by car or boat, hosted by our incoming commander. We have the shelter reserved for the day, so this is another rain or shine event. It is a free State Parks day, so no parking permit required.

October 11-13 (or 14?), Portland, Oregon Train Trip and Weekend in the City, hosted by Paul and Donna. Pencil in the date on your calendar. We'll take Amtrak from Mt. Vernon station to Portland, OR's Union Station. We'll roll our luggage to our hotel a few blocks away (people can choose their own hotel; we recommend the downtown area, especially the beautiful, historic Benson). Portland has so much to offer (in addition to the Saturday Market and Powell's Books!). We'll explore by walking and using street cars, and we'll enjoy yummy food. Depending on people's wishes, we'll return Sunday or Monday on Amtrak to Mt. Vernon.

November 27 – December 1 Thanksgiving at Fort Casey RV, Coupeville and Port Townsend Day trips. Stay tuned for how this Thanksgiving weekend with RVers or car day trippers falls into place.

December 7 LaConner Lighted Boat Parade and Squadron Holiday Party Dinner, hosted by Paul and Donna

In December we celebrate instead of having a monthly meeting. The LaConner Pub has reserved space for our squadron party once again. (Is it the chocolate cake we share with them, or because we have so much fun?) The Snohomish Yacht Club has scheduled its lighted boat parade that evening. Last December's was the best one yet. Join us this year for a good time.

A Brief History of our Squadron

We started from the Everett Squadron as a Provisional Squadron back in 2002. There was deemed a need for teaching boating in northern Snohomish / Western Skagit County after another squadron had changed its demographic. PDC Bruce Troth (D16) had been trying to convince P/C Mark Richey and his wife Debbie to start a new squadron in that area to fill the gap since they lived there. Mark, Debbie, Bruce, P/C Kari Black and Lt. Don Doder agreed to meet for some coffee socials to drum up interest at the Stanwood American Legion. It was there, after several get-togethers, we determined we would try it and applied for provisional status as Skagit-Stilly Provisional Squadron.

The status was approved with the 5 folks above as the bridge and we applied for 100 free ABC books from National to start teaching and get a treasury going. We got the use of Skagit Valley College for classes and were in the catalog. We soon gained enough interest from this to get members as well as transfers from other squadrons and applied for a charter. The name Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron was picked from a member contest. It represents the body of water adjacent to most of our demographic. Our charter was approved in April of 2003. Debbie was the first Commander and Mark the first SEO. The rest of the original 5 went back to the squadrons they came from and we drew the rest of the bridge from the remaining new and transfer members.

We moved our meeting place from Stanwood to the Conway Firehall as our membership was mostly centered around the Conway/ Mt. Vernon/Laconner area. We later moved to the Skagit Fairgrounds and then our present location of the Farmhouse restaurant. Our classes are taught many places around the Stanwood, Mt Vernon, and Anacortes area.

Mark Richey

**Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron
United States Power Squadron
General Meeting Minutes – Feb. 14, 2019**

Attendance

| | | | |
|------------------------|----------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Debbie Richey and more | Mark Richey | Billie Ford | Carolyn Caporgno |
| Glen Caporgno | John Bellinger | Marlene Bellinger | Bob Miller |
| Shani Taha | Bill Lundstrom | Jack Dyer | Jeanne Brooks |
| George Brooks | | | |

*quorum present (10% of members)

Meeting called to order at 1830, location Farmhouse Restaurant
Flag salute

Executive Officer's Report – Kelly Libby

- Marketing Report – Carolyn Caporgno for Donna Mason
 - For the Safe Boating Festival event, June 30, Donna has confirmed Linda Martin of Everett squadron will be there to host her "Seagull Show" boating safety program for kids. Donna has also confirmed the Skagit County Sheriff's Office will also be present to participate that day. Event will be held at Seafarer's Park at the facility there we've rented for the day. Donna has planned to set up various tables (Education, Safety, Activities, etc...) to provide information on boating safety, the squadron, etc... There will be a squadron potluck at 4:00pm at the end of the day.
 - A sign-up sheet was sent around the room for members to sign-up to help out with this event. Donna is looking for planning committee help which means attending 1 or 2 planning meetings. The remainder of the planning will likely be done via email.
 - Donna would like to ask Don Coleman if he'd be willing to contact the Deception Pass squadron to see if they might be able to provide safety checks for us at this event since we don't have an active vessel examiner. John will contact Don about this.
 - Donna has also asked if anyone has a trailerable boat with safety equipment and is willing to bring their boat to the Boating Safety Festival on June 30. There would be room to fit it inside the building (if it can fit through garage doors). We could also use a kayak, paddle board and a crab pot for props. Please contact Donna if interested.
 - Bill Lundstrom also stated the Sheriff's Office will be bringing their full-size boat to the festival, but wanted to let everyone know they may have to leave if a high priority event occurs.
 - Shani Taha suggested an email be sent out to members including all of this information.

Education Officer - Debbie Richey

- ABC Class was postponed one week due to weather and will start this Saturday 2/16. Course will be held at Anacortes Marina and has 12 students currently enrolled.
- Assistant Education Officer Bob Miller announced our upcoming Radar Course has been advertised and has 12-13 students enrolled. We'll likely cut off enrollment at 18 students so contact Bob if you're interested.
- All forms have been sent to National to allow handoff of SEO position from Debbie to Bob at Change of Watch in April.

Administrative Officer - Carolyn Caporgno

- Programs and Activities:
 - Tonight's program: Bill Lundstrom, Skagit County Search & Rescue
 - March speaker canceled, so Carolyn will try to reschedule the May speaker (Bob Perry of Valiant Sailboats, a local yacht designer) for the March meeting.
 - Cornet Bay Shelter has been reserved for July 13 for the Cornet Bay Crab Cookout, hosted by Kari and Deanna. The shelter has also been reserved for Sept. 28 for the Anniversary Party.

- Next activity is March 16, Friday Harbor Ferry Day Trip.
- Debbie announced she'll purchase Mariners tickets (Aug. 24th vs Toronto Blue Jays) through her season ticket holder account for our August Bell Harbor Rendezvous. She'd like to get an idea of the ticket price range members might be interested in. Contact Debbie if you have suggestions.
- 2019 Shirt Orders:
 - Members can order shirts tonight at the meeting via order form or you can order any time online at Clever Kathy's Designs website. ¼ zip sweatshirts are back along with hats and visors. Contact Carolyn or Clever Kathy's for more information.
 - **Note:** This year the cruising schedule will not be present on the back of the ¼ zip and the polo shirts unless you specifically request it (no price difference).
- Membership – Shani Taha
 - Shani will be contacting/providing squadron membership information to all of our current ABC class students.

Secretary – John Bellinger for Kari Randall-Secret

- Scrapbook – Carolyn Caporgno
 - Carolyn reported the scrapbook is coming along and is here for your enjoyment tonight. Requested photos for the scrapbook be sent to her as a PDF file, please. She may contact Kelly and Kari for specific photos.
- Webmaster – Work on the website is ongoing.

Treasurer – John Bellinger for Bob Miller

- Balance: \$6544.75
- Bob will report to Ex Com on next year's budget in March.

Commander - John Bellinger

- D16 Conference (and D16 Change of Watch) will be at the Bellevue Hilton March 8-9. All members are welcome to attend. Donna has provided John with a wonderful squadron history and functions which John will be presenting at the conference.
- Incoming Officer training and Education Seminar will be April 20th in Bellevue at the 116 Hotel. Contact John for more information.

Old Business

- Debbie moved we continue with Shipwreck Day this year and authorize George Johnson to procure (up to \$150) our normal booth space. Bob Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 1830 (motion by Debbie Richey, seconded by Mark Richey, motion carried).

Bio for Guest Speaker, March 14 dinner meeting

Robert H. Perry Yacht Designers, Inc.

Since setting up shop in 1974, the Perry design office is responsible for a long run of successful production boats. Several have become classics and many are highly prized in the used market. "When a sailor can't find the right boat among all the production offerings, it may be time for a custom design." This is what Bob really likes to do best. Come to the March 14 dinner meeting so Bob Perry can take you on a discussion of his recent designs and history of his work in the yacht design business.





Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron

You are cordially invited to

Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron's 2019-2020 Change of Watch

Thursday, April 11, 2019

Farmhouse Restaurant
13724 LaConner Whitney Road, off Route 20
Mount Vernon, Washington

6:00 p.m. Social
6:30 p.m. Meeting
7:00 p.m. Dinner
8:00 p.m. Change of Watch

Buffet Dinner, non-alcoholic beverage,
tax and gratuity included, \$26 per person

RSVP by April 5 to glencaporgno@frontier.com

Uniform is casual dress: polo shirts or squadron shirts and pants, USPS uniform,
or appropriate attire.



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.®



~ 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.

Ship's Store

2019 Cruzin' Squadron shirts are now available to order from Clever Kathy Designs in La Conner. The color this year is Charcoal. We've added back a quarter-zip sweatshirt and hats, in addition to the crewneck sweatshirt, hoodie, short-sleeve, long -sleeve, and polo shirt. You can order online. Go to <http://www.CleverKathyDesigns.com>

Scroll down to "Local Groups" and then select SBSPS from there. Click ORDER FORM button to download order form if you prefer not to order online and give your order to me at the next Squadron dinner meeting.

Squadron burgees

Get ready for boating season by picking up your burgee at our next dinner meeting. They are \$25 (includes tax).

Thank you.
Carolyn

| 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-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 |
| | Donna Mason, AP | 360 595-1083 |
| Commander Department | | |
| 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 | |
| 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-Secrest, 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.