

# THE BITTER END

April 2023



*For Boaters, By Boaters*

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

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

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



## CALENDAR

04 May— Excom Meeting, Burlington Haggan, 6PM  
11 May— Regular Meeting, Shawn O'Donnells, 6PM, Program  
01 June— Excom Meeting, Burlington Haggan, 6PM  
08 June— Meeting BBQ— Shelter Bay Pavilion, 6PM  
9-11 June— D16 Rendezvous, Poulsbo, See Flyer

This is the beginning of summer issue. Our next one will be mid June. Take a look at go-ings on and come out for events. Want to see you all out there. Tell your boating friends and family about us and how excited a group we can be. See you at the rendezvous at our June BBQ. The next meeting promises to be a good program about a local landmark.



### Commanders Message Mark Richey, SN-IN

Well here I am again as you commander. I hope I can do as good a job as my predecessor. We have lots of ideas for get-

ting the Squadron known and getting interest in boating. Our new SEO Adam is really gung ho so please listen to some of his ideas when he presents them. We are hoping to have a productive year.

Carolyn is not leaving us and will be my 2nd in charge this year and still come up with great programs and speakers. Its you guys that are the squadron and we are always looking for things you want to see and do.

If you notice on the calendar above, we are taking you into June. The Poulsbo Rendezvous is something I think everyone should go to once either by boat or car and you get to meet folks from all the other squadrons in the district and exchange stories and ideas. This is something to consider.

Also, I am still your editor. If you have anything you want to see published we are always looking for articles especially the good

of the group. There will not be a June 1 edition this year as your editor is out of the country on vacation but publish an early summer edition mid June if you have anything to add.



### Administrative Officer Carolyn Caporgno, S

Welcome to May and Opening Day for Boaters. I am writing this in anticipation of the warmer weather that is expected to happen in the last few days of April and hope the sun will shine on those who take to the water for their first cruise of the season.

We have Jack Hartt lined up to speak to us about his passion *An Insider's View of Deception Pass State Park*. I first heard Jack last Fall at the Shelter Bay Clubhouse when he presented his view of this local state park where he worked or was it played as a Park Ranger. Jack spent 40 years in Washington State Parks, the last fourteen at Deception Pass. Join me for dinner and this presentation.

In June we will replace our regular meeting at Shawn O'Donnell's with a good old-fashioned BBQ meeting held at the Shelter Bay BBQ Pavilion, La Conner on June 8, 2023 gathering from 5-9 p.m. You can sign up at our May meeting or contact Carolyn Caporgno at [carolyncaporgno@gmail.com](mailto:carolyncaporgno@gmail.com) to bring a side, salad, or dessert to go with hamburgers and brats. Plates, cups, and utensils will be provided, as well as coffee and IZZE, a sparkling juice, popular with many at last year's BBQ.

## CHANGE OF WATCH PHOTOS



Mark handing out officer flags



Mark and his bridge being sworn in by PDC Ken Smith



Carolyn giving squadron to Ken



Ken presenting 25 yr membership to Paul



Carolyn giving gifts to her help over the years.



Carolyn giving gifts to her outgoing bridge

Everyone at dinner







## Education Department Lt/C Adam Deitz

Greetings and Happy Springtime from the Education Department. To start, let's all thank George J., John B., and everyone else that helped with the Marine Electrical Systems curriculum. That class is completed, and the tests administered. Well done! Next up, we will be teaching ABC in Burlington on April 29 and May 6.

Looking further ahead, we're still working out a plan to develop On The Water training. This program will be geared towards assisting high school students at the NW Career and Tech Academy. Mark is helping me get the necessary certificates—then, we'll go from there. With any luck, Debbie will also schedule a Piloting Class (Marine Navigation)—maybe sometime this fall? Let us know if you're interested in participating.

Finally, the Education Department is ready to ask some big questions about the future. How do we get the word out about our classes? And how do we compete with free and more convenient formats of the same material? My personal opinion is that we need to figure out how to offer the ABC class for free—especially to younger boaters. But to do that, we will need a source of funding and better name recognition to attract new students. I'd love to hear your feedback and ideas.

One idea we can discuss is an early springtime event for 2024. Perhaps a "Blessing of the Fleet" in Anacortes. Something where boaters can bring their vessels by and have a minister bless it for the season. I've attended several fleet blessings on each coast—each of which draws hundreds of participants after becoming well established. Thoughts?

Stay safe out there!



## Squadron Activities

By P/C Donna Mason, AP

April 22, twelve of us enjoyed a gorgeous day for the drive down Whidbey Island for lunch at Prima Bistro and explorations to work off dinner. Since there are two sides to every story, here are photos showing two sides of our group at the Bistro. For Paul and me, the danger of this trip is that on the way home we have to drive near Lopez Island Creamery. Oh oh!

There is no formal squadron activity for May, but do consider wearing your life jacket on "Wear Your Life Jacket Everywhere Day," May 19, as part of Boating Safety Week. It is a great way to engage people about boating safety, education, and our group.

June 9-11 is the D16 Rendezvous in Poulsbo. Hope you've made reservations and will enjoy the weekend with other members of District 16.

July 7-12 Seattle Bell Harbor Marina Rendezvous Join Mark and Debbie Richey for this rendezvous time during the Major League Baseball All Star Festivities. Contact Debbie if interested: [drichey@rocketmail.com](mailto:drichey@rocketmail.com). Have fun getting your boat ready for boating season, and I hope you don't have too many frustrating moments! Be safe out there!

July 15 Shipwreck Day in Anacortes Well it seems that George and Sandy Johnson are willing to tackle this challenge another year. Amazing! Help needed! Donate your good household and boating items to the sale. Volunteer to pick up donations from other people. Help at the Pricing Party, pick up tables and other supplies, set up the booth, there are lots of ways to help for our squadron's fundraising event of the year. End the day with a good group Mexican dinner right down the street.

August 11-13 Deer Harbor Rendezvous, Orcas Island Hosted by Mark and Debbie Richey. After helping out for Shipwreck Day, you'll deserve a relaxing weekend. Worth it just for the Lopez Island ice cream at the dock store. We'll enjoy a Saturday cookout on the dock.

August 14-31 Desolation Sound Cruise Hearty boaters may want to join Mark and Debbie as they sail up to and explore around Desolation Sound Canada. This is a plan-each-day-as-you-go cruise. Contact Mark and Debbie if you are interested.

September 1-4 Labor Day Weekend Cruise with Seattle and Everett Squadrons. Plans are in the works. See their squadron websites for details.

September 23 America's Boating Club of Skagit Bay Anniversary Cookout at Camano Island State Park. Hosted by the squadron Cdr. This is a free State Parks Day at a NEW VENUE for us. We'll enjoy being in the protected Lowell Point Kitchen Shelter with electricity, picnic tables, cold-water sink, wood stove and charcoal braziers for our potluck cookout, accommodations for 44 people.

October 13-15 Rosario Resort, Orcas Island Rendezvous Join Mark and Debbie Richey for usually reduced slip rates at this last boating rendezvous for 2023.

December 9 Lighted Boat Parade and Holiday Party at the LaConner Pub Hosted by Paul and Donna. If we want to be in the protected outside space, we need a larger group than last year. Enjoy dinner from the menu as you enjoy the colorful boat parade, followed by cake provided by the squadron. Opportunity to contribute to local "Neighbors In Need" Food Bank.

December 16-18 (Sat.-Mon.) Vancouver B.C. Canada Train, Holiday Lights and Carol Cruise Weekend Take the train to Vancouver on Saturday, ooh and aah as you explore through the amazing holiday Festival of Lights at the 55-acre Van Deusen Botanical Garden Saturday afternoon/evening, then on Sunday enjoy the Harbor Cruises Holiday Dinner and Caroling Cruise (only offered Wed., Thurs., or Sun.). Take the train home on Monday. Hosted by Paul and Donna.

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## OUR NEXT PROGRAM

### *Insider's view of Deception Pass State Park*

A look at the pre-history, history, backstories, behind the scenes stories, and secrets of Deception Pass

#### **Instructor: Jack Hartt**

Jack Hartt was born and raised near the shores of the Salish Sea in Seattle. He frequently played hooky from Ballard High School to go down to the beach. He majored in Park Management at the University of Washington, his senior thesis exploring the management of Washington State Park's Puget Sound beaches. He then worked for Washington State Parks for 40 years, retiring in 2017, and now makes his home in Skagit County. He loves beaches, sunsets, sunrises, warm weather, flying, photography, hiking, kayaking, biking, laughing, basketball, writing, playing with his kids and grandkids, eating blackberry pie, and finding rainbows.



## Spring and Summer Reading?

By P/C Donna Mason, AP

Here are a few more suggestions for your summer reading entertainment:

Icebound Shipwrecked at the Edge of the World by Andrea Pitzer. For those who haven't yet had enough Shackleton type stories. In 1597 Dutch explorer William Barents and crew set off to the Far Arctic and lost their ship to icebergs. They spent nine months contending with polar bears and endless winter.

The Wager: A Tale of Shipwreck, Mutiny and Murder by David Grann. A page-turner about shipwreck, survival and savagery. This incredible nonfiction survival story is almost too unbelievable to be real.

The D-Day Training Pocket Manual 1944 edited by Chris McNab. For history buffs, this brings together excerpts from Allied manuals preparing for D-Day.

The World Encyclopedia of Destroyers and Frigates by Bernard Ireland. This compendium includes more than 500 photographs with quotes from the military men who experienced them.

Hymn To Murder by Paul Doherty. For mystery fans, ships on the Devonshire coast are being deliberately wrecked, crews are slaughtered, cargoes are plundered. Lord Simon is concealing a dark secret and is murdered.

Tales of AI: The Water Rescue Dog by Lynne Cox. Written by an International Swimming Hall of Famer who had to meet a Newfoundland pup trained to jump from a helicopter into Italy's waters and the other dogs of the Italian School of Rescue Dobs.

The Book of Sea Shanties Wellerman and Other Songs from the Seven Seas by Nathan Evans. Scottish singer Nathan Evans, during Covid lockdown, posted performances on the internet and has published a collection of sea shanty lyrics and meaningful notes.

For readers 9-12: Northwind by Gary Paulsen. A deadly plague reaches a fishing camp and orphan Leif flees in a cedar canoe and is thrown from one danger to another.

A lullaby for children up to Age 7: Ocean Lullaby. By Laura McGee Kvasnosky. A family relaxes on a tropical beach while sea creatures get ready to rest. Accompanied by pastel pictures.

For Ages 5-9: Find Me Adventures in the Ocean by Agnese Baruzzi. Joining other "Find Me Adventures," this search and find version dives beneath the surface of the deep blue sea.

For readers 9-12: The Deep Blue Explore Earth's Majestic Oceans by Charlotte Guillain. Explore ocean landscapes, learn about ecosystems and a range of species, with exquisite paintings.

For Ages 7 and Up: The Complete Laugh-Out-Loud Jokes for Kids by Rob Elliott. Here's one for parents or grandparents entertaining kids. Youngsters will delight in the collection of family-friendly gut busters.

## OUR LUNCH AT PRIMA BISTRO IN LANGLEY WA







**SAVE THE DATE**  
**FOR THE ANNUAL**

**D16 Rendezvous at Port of Poulsbo: June 8-11, 2023**

**Travel to the Rendezvous by Boat, Car or RV**

**Friday, 6/9:**

**Flare Shoot Training/Practice:** Afternoon Tides look favorable. Learn/practice using actual flares.

**Friday Night Social:** "Dock Party" from 5:00-7:30PM on "E Dock." Members/guest set up tables & chairs (and tents/covers depending on weather) at the end of "E Dock." Bring your favorite hors d'oeuvres & BYOB to share with fellow district members and guests.

**Saturday, 6/10:**

**Saturday Coffee & Pastries:** 9:30AM at the Poulsbo Marina's "party barge" (free for registered rendezvous participants).

**Flare Shoot Training/Practice:** will be held on Friday because of tides.

**Co-Op Chart (Geodetic & Navigational) Practice/Training:** Morning (weather permitting).

**Fire Extinguisher Training/Practice:** Early afternoon. Learn/practice putting out real fires.

**Man Overboard recovery:** Afternoon. Practice heaving line throw and recovering from the water "Oscar" (the same weight & size of a person).

**Saturday Evening Dinner:**

Join us for a catered Picnic themed dinner (approx. \$25/plate) on Saturday evening at the **Poulsbo Yacht Club**. (BYOB). Walk, Drive or Dinghy to enjoy the events. **The Poulsbo Yacht Club is .6 miles (6 tenths of a mile) from the Marina.**

**MOORAGE AND LODGING**

**Moorage Reservations:** E-Dock has been reserved for those planning to attend by boat. Moorage fees of \$1.50 per foot (30' minimum) to be paid directly to Poulsbo Marina (upon arrival). In addition, a \$10.00 reservation fee will be collected by D16 at the time of registration. Information regarding your boat size and specific moorage requests will be collected on the Registration Form which will be sent out to all members soon.

**Lodging:** A block of rooms has been reserved at the *Poulsbo Inn* under the name "District 16" at a group rate of \$124.60/night plus tax (for 6/9 and 6/10).

**GROUP BLOCK RATE CLOSES JUNE 1, 2023.**

Please make your hotel reservations early and directly with the hotel at 360-779-3921.

**Watch for the Reservation Form and sign up for the fun!**

The registration form with more information will be sent to all members. For Questions Contact: David McBride, D16 Treasurer at: [davmcb@comcast.net](mailto:davmcb@comcast.net).

**Skagit Bay Sail & Power Squadron  
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes  
April 6, 2023**

**Attendance:**

Mark Richey	Donna Mason	
Jack Dyer	Glen Caporgno	Carolyn Caporgno
Debbie Richey	Sandy Johnson	George Johnson

\*Quorum present

Meeting Called to Order: 1810

**Executive Officer –**

- Marketing Report – The marketing committee will meet at 1700 on Thursday, May 4.

**Education Officer** – Mark Richey - Instructor Development class will be offered by Everett Squadron. They are currently collecting names of participants. Schedule will be determined. Instructor recertification will offered April 15 at 5 pm via Zoom. Adam Deitz has been able to obtain a waiver for Instructor development. There are four instructors that need to be re-certified. Adam is very interested in teaching the high school students on the water training. There are requirements needed in order to be able to do this. Mark and Adam are currently working through them. We have one student for ABC class. The new piloting class will be taught this fall led by Debbie Richey.

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**Administrative Officer –**

- Activities: Donna Mason – Primo Bistro is full with 12 participants. Vancouver was a good time.

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- Membership – Nothing to report

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**Secretary – Debbie Richey**

- Motion moved, second and approved for the corrected February 2023 Minutes and March 2033.
- The Bitter End will not be published in June.

**Treasurer – Jack Dyer**

- Balance: \$xxxxx (as of 03/31/2023).

**Commander – Carolyn Caporgno**

- We need tablecloths for the change of watch.

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**Old Business –**

**New Business –**

- AED pad – Approved to spend \$75 for replacement pads..

Meeting adjourned 1843.

**America's Boating Club of Skagit Bay  
General Meeting April 13, 2023**

**Attendance:**

Mark Richey	Jack Dyer	George Johnson	Paul Rosetter
Carolyn Caporgno	Debbie Richey	John Woodard	Donna Mason
Glen Caporgno	Sandy Johnson	Pat Smith	
Jean Drummond	Steve Drummond	Ken Smith	

The meeting started at 1830 at Shawn O'Donnell's Farmhouse Restaurant

**Marketing** – Donna Mason thanked George Johnson, George Brooks and Jack Dyer for putting up the signs in marinas and other places where boaters congregate. Donna Mason and Paul Rosetter have stopped manning booths at various events. Donna is looking for volunteers to man the booths.

**Educational Officer Report** – Incoming SEO is absent. Marine Electrical Systems is wrapping up. ABC has four students registered. Adam was given a waiver for Instructor Development. There is a proposal to teach the new piloting.

**Administrative Officer** – HELP WANTED!

**Programs:** May - Jack Hartt, Former park ranger at Deception Pass State Park, June will be a picnic at the picnic shelter in Shelter Bay, September Skagit Search and Rescue, October, Will Shellenberger, Pacific Northwest Naval Air Museum, November, Phyllis Woolwine. Shearwater University, December Boat Parade and Holiday Party.

Ken Smith promoted the Poulsbo Rendezvous in June. See Bitter End for all the details. There will be a raffle, the squadrons will provide the items for the raffle.

**Membership:** No new members

**Squadron Activities** – Fourteen folks are going to Primo Bistro in Langley on Whidbey Island on April 22. We have no activities scheduled in May. Safe boating week is in May with the Wear Your Lifejacket to Work Day. You can now purchase a moorage permit for state parks on the state parks website.

**Secretary:** - March minutes were approved.

**Treasurer** - Jack Dyer reported bank account balance of as of March 31, \$xxxxxx Audit committee met and the books are in "perfect" shape.

**Commander:** Carolyn Caporgno – Her last meeting!

**Old Business** –

**New Business:**

Meeting Recessed: 1848

Meeting Reconvened: 1950

Outgoing Commanders Message: Carolyn thanked all the people that were always there to help her. She passed out gifts to her bridge and the executive committee.

The squadron gave Carolyn a gift card to Michaels and the bookstore in Anacortes for her term in office. Carolyn dismissed the bridge. P/D/C Ken Smith dismissed Carolyn. Improved communications is one of D/C Annette Ferguson's goals for this bridge year. Look at your squadron for long range planning, it can lead to greater success. Look at the needs of your squadron to change with the membership. Members needs change over the years. Membership leakage through non-renewals. Why did they leave? Look at the cyber squadrons for members in your area.

Paul Rosetter was awarded his life membership.

P/D/C Ken Smith swore Mark Richey in as squadron commander. The following people were sworn in for remaining bridge positions: Carolyn Caporgno, Admin Officer; Debbie Richey, Secretary; Jack Dyer, Treasurer.

Mark gave his welcome speech.

Meeting adjourned: 2030



## 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.®**

### Squadron Logo Wear

Did you know that there is a shop in La Conner that will embroider shirts, bags and hats with the Skagit Bay name and burgee? It's called CleverKathy. She has our logo already setup. You can bring your own items or purchase one of her many items. Stop in sometime and see what she has to offer! [https://www.cleverkathydesigns.com/store/c1/Featured\\_Products.html](https://www.cleverkathydesigns.com/store/c1/Featured_Products.html)

Amazon has recently announced that it is ending the Amazon Smile charitable giving platform on February 20, 2023. The squadron will receive one more donation check from them and then no more. To those of you who supported the squadron through the Smile program, the bridge says "Thank you very much!".

### ~ General Meeting Information ~

Our General Meetings are normally held monthly on the 2nd Thursdays of each month (except July & August), at Shawn O'Donnell's, 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.



Bridge Officers		
Commander	Mark Richey, SN-IN	425-876-6274
Executive Officer	Vacant	
Education Officer	Adam Deitz	203-536-6402
Administrative Officer	Carolyn Caporgno, S	209-609-1182
Secretary	Debbie Richey, AP	425-750-9551
Treasurer	Jack Dyer, AP	425-785-7782
Executive Committee		
	Donna Mason, AP	360-595-1083
	Sandy Johnson, P	360-588-8125
	George Brooks, SN	
	George Johnson, SN	360-588-8125
Commander Department		
Chaplain	Ruth Peterson, SN	360-293-1888
Flag Lt.	Vacant	
Port Captain	Vacant	
Law Officer	Vacant	
Merit Marks	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
	Vacant	
	Vacant	
Executive Department		
Co-Op Charting	Mark Richey, SN-IN	425-876-6274
Liaison	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Marketing	Donna Mason, AP	360 595-1083
	George Brooks, SN	
Public Relations	Various members split	
Radio Technical	George Brooks, SN	360-982-2999
Safety	Don Coleman	360 333-2962
Vessel Exams	Vacant	
Education Department		
Assistant Education Officer	Vacant	
Local Board Public Boating	George Johnson, SN	360-588-8125
Local Board Advanced Grds	George Brooks, SN	360 982-2999
Local Board Elect Courses	John Bellinger, SN	360-757-8091
Administrative Department		
Boating Activities	Donna Mason, AP	360 595-1083
Rendezvous	Donna Mason, AP	
Greeting	Sandy Johnson, P	360-588-8125
Membership	Debbie Richey, AP	
Operations Training	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Programs	Vacant	
Property Officer	George Johnson, SN	360-588-8125
Supply Officer	Glen Caporgno, S	209-484-2365
Secretary's Department		
Editor "Bitter End"	Mark Richey, SN-IN	425-876-6274
Historian	George Johnson, SN	360-588-8125
Public Contact	Kelly Libby, S	425-359-7078
Roster	Vacant	
Scrapbook	Carolyn Caporgno, S	209-609-1182
Webmaster / IT	Kari Randall-Secrest, N	360-387-1194
Auditing Committee		
1 Yr. Chair	Sandy Johnson, P	
2 Yrs.	Jeannie Drummond	
3 Yrs.		
Nominating Committee		
1 Yr. Chair	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
2 Yrs.	George Johnson, SN	360-588-8125
3 Yrs.	Vacant	
Rules Committee		
1 Yr. Chair	George Johnson, SN	
2 Yrs.	Donna Mason, AP	360 595-1083
3 Yrs.	Ruth Peterson	

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 no longer wish to hold the committee spot we have you in, please let us know.**