

# THE BITTER END

February 2024



*For Boaters, By Boaters*

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

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A Division Of United States Power Squadrons™  
District 16



## CALENDAR

- 01 Feb— Exec Comm Meeting, Burlington Haggen 3PM
- 31 Jan-04 Feb— Sportsmans Show, Puyallup
- 08 Feb— Regular Meeting, Farmhouse, 6PM
- 14 Feb— Happy Valentines Day
- 24 Feb— District 16 Spring Conference, Bellingham



Big issue this month. Take a look at all the activities we have planned for the year. We hope that there is something for everyone and we will see you there. Also we should be sending out a survey real soon to see what kinds of classes, seminars, or presentations you might want in the way of education this year. It doesn't even have to be a squadron class, just boating related.



### Commanders Message Mark Richey, SN-IN

Well the first month of 2024 has gone by. Wow! We will soon be cruising again. In fact the new schedule is in this issue.

Did you all go to the boat show and buy or get ideas for all the good stuff you want for your boat. Or how about a new boat? We should have ours all up to date now for a long summer cruise. We hope to use some of the destinations in the list for a jumping off point and ending point for much longer jaunts. If you are interested in knowing where or coming along with us, please feel free to ask.

Don't forget the Sportsmans Show in Puyallup. It has boats too and gear. A bit more affordable maybe for you smaller boat types. Its Jan 31-Feb 4 at the fairgrounds.

As far as activities this month, the mountains still have snow for you ski types. I am heading up at least once in the next few days. I heard on the local forecast today that there are no more large, lowland, weather events on the near horizon. That cold snap was really something, right? Should I knock on wood?

The slate of prospective officers for the coming year has been posted in this issue. Our election in in March. If you have any questions or comments please let George or Debbie know.

We hope to get an ABC Class going this spring so need to start drumming up interest next month among

your friends. Adam has agreed to be nomintated for Education Officer for another year so we would love to help him out.

Anyway, come and see the program at our next meeting and help us swear in Ben, our brand new member. Also, don't let the groundhog get you down and have a happy Valentines Day with your sweetie.



### Administrative Officer Carolyn Caporgno, S

**It's often by looking at other families  
that we learn how to enrich our own.**

Our speaker on Thursday, February 8, coming from our sister squadron in Bellingham, is Cheryl Stritzel McCarthy, author of *Many Hands Make Light Work: A Memoir*, the rollicking true story of growing up in a family of nine children in a college town in the '60s and '70s. Cheryl and her siblings were born with a paintbrush in their hands and a song in their hearts. When they were old enough to hammer a nail, they were put to work at their family's business of renovating old houses. Her presentation on February 8 on parenting, grandkids, the power of your expectations, and the inevitability of change in all our lives – is inspiring, full of surprises, and laugh-out-loud funny.

Join me in welcoming Cheryl to our monthly dinner meeting.



## **Squadron Activities**

By P/C Donna Mason, AP

Hope you all stayed warm during the cold snap and dreamt of good times during the boating season. At our January Members meeting we planned a full year of activities for squadron members. Hope you'll join us! See the REVISED Schedule elsewhere in this "Bitter End."

The Seattle Boat Show is February 2-10. You can enjoy it on your own.

March 16 Langley, Whidbey Island by Boat or Car Day Trip, hosted by Paul and Donna

We'll venture to picturesque Langley on our own and meet at Prima Bistro upstairs at 201 ½ First Street for Noon lunch. If you arrive early, it is fun to poke around the Star Market on the first level. After lunch, you can walk off your delicious French-meets-Pacific-Northwest food by exploring around town. We have a reservations for 12 hearty appetites. Adventurous boaters may want to make a weekend of it, staying at the marina. Email [donnajmason@gmail.com](mailto:donnajmason@gmail.com) if you're interested in going.

April 6 Anacortes to Friday Harbor, San Juan Island, Ferry Day Trip, rain or shine, hosted by Paul and Donna

Most of us will walk on the ferry, which will be on the TBA Spring Schedule. We'll plan to leave Anacortes around 9:15 a.m. and arrive at 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 Blue Water Grill at 7 Spring 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 TBA 5:25 p.m. ferry back to Anacortes which will arrive about 7 p.m. Check out the menu at: <https://www.bluewaterandgrill.com>. RSVP via Email [donnajmason@gmail.com](mailto:donnajmason@gmail.com) if you're interested in going.

May 17 Wear Your Life Jacket Everywhere Day: Tying into Safe Boating Week, wear your life jacket as you go about your business and let people know why you are wearing it: you are a member of America's Boating Club and you promote boating safety for Safe Boating Week.

May 17-19 Rosario Resort Orcas Island Rendezvous by Boat or Car, hosted by Mark and Debbie Richey

Last weekend for less expensive spring boat slip rates. Reserve your slip by calling [360.376.2152](tel:360.376.2152) ext. 700. Non-boaters can stay at the Resort Hotel and Spa by calling 360.376.2222. Rosario Marina will not take reservations until the end of March. You can make a reservation on-line, but please indicate you are with Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron.

June 14-July 6 "Aim for Desolation Sound Cruise"

Mark and Debbie in their sailboat "Quiet Time" will be venturing north, hoping to make it as far as Desolation Sound Canada. If you'd like to join them for this cruise, contact Debbie at [drichey@rocketmail.com](mailto:drichey@rocketmail.com).

June 21-23 is the America's Boating Club District 16 Rendezvous in Poulsbo. See the Spring *Cardinal Points* or D16 website <https://www.uspsd16.org/news-events>. If you plan to go by boat, make your slip reservation asap.

July 18-22 Vancouver Island by boat or Tsawwassen Ferry to explore Victoria and Sidney, B.C. Hosted by Paul and Donna

Details to be worked out. Stay tuned. We plan to spend a few days each in Victoria and Sidney. The ferry from Anacortes won't be available for 5 years, so we'll approach by driving over the border to Tsawwassen. We might try to fit in a visit to Bchart Gardens. Boaters are welcome to join us.

August 30 – September 2 Labor Day Weekend with Seattle & Everett Squadrons. TBA

September 28 Squadron Anniversary Cookout at Coronet Bay, Deception State Park, Whidbey Island by boat or car, rain or shine.

The shelter is reserved for the day. Parking is Free on this State Parks Day. Hosted by Commander or Designee.

October D16 End of Season Cruise TBA by D16

See the Fall *Cardinal Points* or D16 website <https://www.uspsd16.org/news-events>.

November 15-17 Destination Train Trip Weekend hosted by Paul and Donna. Pencil in the date on your calendar.

We'll take Amtrak from Mt. Vernon station to a TBA location for an explorations-and-delicious-dining weekend.

December 14 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 and Eatery at 702 First St. has reserved space for our Squadron Holiday Party beginning at 5 p.m. The Snohomish Yacht Club has scheduled its lighted boat parade that evening. Join us this year for a good time.

But wait—there's more!

December 21 Afternoon Meal and Argosy Christmas Caroling Ship Cruise from Lake Union Seattle, hosted by Paul and Donna

The cruise schedule won't be available until after Thanksgiving, but based on prior years, this will be the grand finale weekend and the cruise will be in Seattle, not Kirkland. The 1 ½ hour cruise will be from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. AAA members receive a 20% discount ordering online. Prior to the cruise, we will enjoy a meal at a nearby restaurant. Some people may want to spend the night and enjoy other holiday festivities in Seattle.

### America's Boating Club of Skagit Bay 2024 Activities Schedule - Revised

| Date           | Destination  | Host                           | Theme                          |
|----------------|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Jan – Feb      | Stay Safe!   |                                | Prep for the Season            |
| Feb 2-10       | Seattle Boat Show: Enjoy it on your own                        |                                | What's New In Boating?         |
| March 16       | Langley, Whidbey Island Boat or Car Day Trip                   | Paul & Donna                   | Prima Bistro & Explore         |
| April 6        | Friday Harbor San Juan Island Boat or Car Ferry                | Paul & Donna                   | Spring on the Island           |
| May 17         | Wear Your Life Jacket <u>Everywhere</u> Day                    |                                | Boating Safety Week            |
| May 17-19      | Rosario Resort, Orcas Island, Boat or Car                      | Mark & Debbie Richey           | Off season rates!              |
| June 14-July 6 | Aim for Desolation Sound Cruise                                | Mark & Debbie Richey           | Slow boating northward         |
| June 21-23     | D16 Rendezvous, Poulsbo  | D16 Commander                  | See Spring Cardinal Points     |
| July 18-22     | Boat or Tsawwassen Ferry to Victoria and Sidney, B.C.          | Paul & Donna                   | Explore Vancouver Island       |
| Aug 30-Sept 2  | TBD location with Seattle & Everett Squadrons                  | See Everett & Seattle Websites | Labor Day Weekend              |
| Sept 28        | Anniversary Cookout, Coronet Bay, Whidby Island                | Squadron Commander/Designee    | By Car Free Day or Boat!       |
| Oct TBD        | D16 End of Season Cruise                                       | D16 TBD                        | Enjoy boating with D16 Members |
| Nov 15-17      | TBD Destination Train Trip                                     | Paul & Donna                   | A weekend of explorations      |
| Dec 14         | LaConner Lighted Boat Parade & Holiday Party                   | Paul & Donna                   | Holidays celebration           |
| Dec 21         | <b>Seattle</b> Afternoon Meal & Argosy Christmas Caroling Ship | Donna & Paul                   | Sat. 5 p.m. Cruise, overnight? |

## **Report of the Nominating Committee**

The following members have agreed to hold the shown positions for the 2023-2024 bridge year if they are elected. Elections will be held at the beginning of the March general membership meeting. If there are any concerns or additions, please address them with the squadron Secretary.

Submitted by Debbie Richey and George Johnson

### **Bridge Officers**

Commander  
Mark Richey, SN-IN

### **Exec Officer**

Not Required

### **Education Officer**

Adam Dietz

### **Administrative Officer**

Carolyn Caporgno, S

### **Secretary**

Debbie Richey, AP

### **Treasurer**

Jack Dyer, AP

### **Executive Committee**

Donna Mason, AP  
Sandy Johnson, AP  
George Johnson, SN

### **Auditing Committee**

Jeannie Drummond  
Sandy Johnson, AP

### **Nominating Committee**

George Johnson, SN  
Debbie Richey, AP

### **Rules Committee**

Donna Mason, AP  
George Johnson, SN

Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron  
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes  
January 04, 2024

**Attendance:**

Carolyn Caporgno  
Glen Caporgno  
Debbie Richey

George Brooks  
George Johnson

Donna Mason  
Sandy Johnson

Mark Richey  
Jack Dyer

Quorum present

Meeting started: 1504

Officer's Reports

**Executive Officer**

Marketing – National has a CO-OP program for advertising reimburses for 50% up to \$300. Donna is looking for a place to put up a display in a library. Jack is going to check out the Anacortes library.

**Education Officer – Adam Deitz (Not present)**

See agenda.

**Administrative Officer – Carolyn Caporgno**

**Programs** – January – Activity Planning, February – Cherry McCarthy Author, March – Paul and Donna New Zealand Trip

**Membership – Debbie Richey** – no report

**Activities – Donna Mason** Planning meeting January 11, 2024

**Secretary – Debbie Richey** – December minutes approved.

**Treasurer – Jack Dyer** Jack Dyer reported bank account balance of as of December 31, \$xxxx.

**Commander** – Nothing to report

**Old Business** November 30 is the end of our fiscal year. Jack will file the IRS form 990 before February 20. When he returns from his trip will file with the IRS to change our fiscal year.

The roller door at our storage unit is blocked by something near the door. It will take two people to open the door and undo the blockage.

**New Business**

Meeting adjourned 1543

## America's Boating Club of Skagit Bay

### General Meeting January 11, 2024

**Attendance:**

Mark Richey  
Debbie Richey  
Jack Dyer

Carolyn Caporgno  
Glen Caporgno  
Bernard Robinson  
Donna Mason

Paul Rosetter  
Dan Niven  
George Johnson  
Sandy Johnson

The meeting started at 1845 at Shawn O'Donnell's Farmhouse Restaurant

**Marketing** – Donna is looking for a display case at a local library where she could set up a display about America's Boating Club. This is to broaden the scope of folks hearing about us. Please let her know if your local library has one and the contact details.

**Educational Officer Report** – No Report.

**Administrative Officer** –

**Programs:** January – activity planning, March – Paul and Donna travelogue of Australia and New Zealand, April Change of Watch,

**Squadron Activities** – Planning meeting tonight.

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

**Treasurer** - Jack Dyer reported bank account balance of as of December 31, 2023, \$xxxxx.

**Commander:** Mark Richey – Current member would like a large squadron burgee. Carolyn to investigate costs.

George received a letter from Rotary about Shipwreck Day to see if we wanted to pursue a booth.

**Old Business** – National has created new bylaws for squadrons. Donna is going compare ours.

**New Business** - No new business.

Meeting Adjourned: 1854

## 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)

We are always looking for boating related articles from any member. Photos too. If you think it would be of interest to the Squadron, send it. The editor will insert as space and subject provides. Note that the green box on the first page is quick editorial comments and attention getting items.

### ~ 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.**