

THE BITTER END

News from Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron April 2014



A Unit of United States Power Squadrons ® District 16

Web Page: www.usps.org/localusps/skagit

Email: ssboatschool@hotmail.com



CALENDAR

10 April—Change of Watch, Farmhouse

11-13 April—Sidney BC Rendezvous

25-27 April,- Oak Harbor Holland Happenings, RV and Boat In

2-4 May—Point Hudson Marina Rendesvous



Commander's Message

Kelly Libby, S

Here's to springtime weather and a new bridge of officers coming soon!

Since this is my last article as Commander, I wanted to reiterate the goals that you, the members of our Squadron, helped to create and achieve this past year.

1. We said we'd hold at least six rendezvous – we successfully held 15 fun and exciting rendezvous! Thank you to Donna Mason and all the rendezvous hosts for your organizing efforts!

2. We wanted to offer a minimum of three classes – we outdid ourselves and held four! Thanks to our small, hard-working, and flexible volunteer group in our Education Department for making this happen...Boating Education is the core being of this group as we all know!

3. We wanted to keep our member retention rate of 95% or above – we achieved that goal! In actuality we have one additional member more than we had at this time last year! Thank you Bob Miller for being my statistician on this one!

4. Lastly, our Squadron's goal to show our community minded spirit by donating to a local charity came through again! We held a raffle at our Christmas get together and collected \$175 from our members and then we voted to match the funds and happily delivered \$350 to "Skagit Valley Neighbors in

Need"! Thank you Lynn and Bill Stewart for being the "happy delivery people"! It's amazing what a little Christmas spirit (ok, cocktails!) can achieve!

I'm so looking forward to the Change of Watch this coming Thursday and most especially in helping to support Kari Randall-Secrest as our new Commander!



Commander Elect

Kari Randall-Secrest, N

First, let me thank all of you, pre-Change of Watch, for your support and confidence in selecting me as your incoming Commander. It is my distinct honor and privilege to serve you fine folks in this regard and I look forward to the challenge. As you all know, I have VERY big shoes to fill, because our outgoing Commander Kelly Libby, has set the bar extremely high. She has taught me so much just by being her wonderful self, a superb leader and doing it all with such class and grace. Please join me in thanking her for her sincere dedication and commitment to our squadron throughout her tenure as Commander.

As your new Commander, I look forward to an exciting and fun filled year with many adventures and experiences to be had with both new and old friends alike. Your new Bridge will bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the table and I consider myself privileged to be able to serve with all of them. We will carry on by continuing to encourage and promote safe boating and boater education as well as

providing you with a practical means to foster fraternal and social relationships through all of our gatherings and activities, both on the water and off. But we can only continue in our success with your ideas, help and participation. Please know that my door is always open for any of our members and my email address: kasndmr@gmail.com and home phone number: 360-387-1194 are always accessible to you.

Switching gears just a bit, I'd like to say a few words about the recent Oso Landslide that has so devastatingly impacted our Northwest Washington community. It was my honor and privilege to serve as a member of the Northwest Washington Incident Management Team (NWIMT) alongside so many dedicated and hard-working people for the first 8 days of this tragedy. It was the early afternoon of Saturday, March 22nd when I received "the call". Our team is always packed and ready to go at a moment's notice to respond to local disasters and emergency incidents and the Oso Landslide certainly fit the bill. I am a GIS Specialist for the NWIMT, which means I'm responsible for producing any and all maps that our team might need to conduct operations during an incident. My co-worker Sean Carson and I were both deployed for this incident, and it was a good thing because it took both of us to keep up with the team's mapping demands for such a challenging scene. We produced search grid maps for search and rescue crews, press briefing maps, and collected and mapped GPS tracks and points as searchers and K-9 teams attempted to wade through the muck and rubble that this slide left behind, first looking to rescue survivors and then eventually switching into an even more saddened recovery mode. We worked 28 hours non-stop, as did most members of our team, from the moment we got there and as usual with these kinds of events, we continued putting in long hours during the following 7 days until a relief team took over on Saturday, March 29th. As awful a tragedy as this slide is, I can only say that the resilience and perseverance that the communities of Oso, Darrington, and Arlington demonstrated was, and still is, truly incredible and inspiring to me. The phrase "Oso Strong" that we've all seen so much in regards to this terrible disaster, seems to me, to say it all.



Boating Activities By P/C Donna Mason, AP

This is an exciting month with members changing positions during Change of Watch. Those who served in the last year did a great job, and I wish good luck to the new officers as they take on new responsibilities for our squadron. This worthy, volunteer organization can use all the good personnel resources we can find! So, thank you to Kelly and the departing officers, and welcome Kari and the new bridge!

April Activities

Our big boating activity this month is Bob and Jean Miller's cruise to Sidney, B.C. April 11-13. We're hoping for good weather and a fun time with the Skagit Bay and Friday Harbor squadron members.

Boaters or RVers may want to experience the Oak Harbor Holland Happening weekend of April 25-27. There is no squadron host for this event. For boat slip, call 360 279-4575; don't delay, space fills up for this weekend. The City of Oak Harbor does not take reservations for RV sites at Staysail RV Park, on the waterfront at 1600 S. Beeksma Drive, but several SBSPS members have enjoyed staying there for this festive weekend.

Upcoming

May 2-4 Dale and Kelly Libby will be hosting a rendezvous at Port Hudson Marina, Port Townsend. Watch for their announcement.

Planning Ahead August Cruise to Canada

Have you made your plans yet to join us for the Squadron 10-day cruise to Canada? Join us for the whole 10 days or join us for part of the cruise. Perhaps you can only do the weekends? Or, slow sailboaters may want to do Deer Harbor to Ganges to Roche Harbor. Please contact me if you have questions or want to cruise: Donna at 360 595-1083 or donnajmason@gmail.com.

Planned itinerary:

Deer Harbor weekend rendezvous Friday, August 15 – Sunday a.m. August 17.

Sunday morning, August 17 cruise to Poet's Cove, Bedwell Harbor, South Pender Island, B.C. Clear Canadian Customs at nearby Customs dock and stay two nights at the marina.

Tuesday morning, August 19, cruise to Ganges Harbor on Salt Spring Island, stay three nights.

Friday morning, August 22, cruise to Roche Harbor, San Juan Island. Clear U.S. Customs at the nearby

dock. Stay two nights at the marina. Sunday morning, August 24, return to home port. End of cruise.

This cruise is approximately 115 nautical miles. Check out each marina at these websites:
www.deerharbormarina.com; www.poetcove.com;
www.gangesmarina.com; www.rocheharbor.com.



Fun at our Friday Harbor get together last month. Not many there but was certainly a good time. Mary and Zach Richey enjoying dinner. Mark, Deb, Donna, Paul Mary, Zach, Seth and Elisabeth below.



Education Department **George Johnson, SN**

Paul Rosetter, ASEO, is teaching ABC at Anacortes Marina. It began April 7, and will include six sessions, ending April 23. Assisting are George Johnson, Bob Miller and John Bellinger.

The Education Department is evaluating the need for our squadron to begin offering the On-The-Water programs offered by National and District 16. Current consensus is that there has been insufficient Education Department
George Johnson, SN

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The Education Department is evaluating the need for our squadron to begin offering the On-The-Water programs offered by National and District 16. Current consensus is that there has been insufficient interest in our squadron to justify the work to organize and manage the program. One of our couples took the training recently with the Bellingham squadron, and that worked well. Our best approach might be to continue sending to Bellingham any people actually wanting to complete the program. The first attempt to set-up the program in our own squadron resulted in no takers except for the certifier. We will not run out of people who think that somebody else should go to the work of setting up a program, creating and maintaining certifiers, identifying and recruiting students, and scheduling and delivering the course. National's OTW program has been expanded to include advanced courses. Perhaps this will generate more interest. We'll see.

Bob Miller is chomping at the bit to teach the new Cruise Planning course. More on this as the year's Education Department schedule takes shape.

**Skagit Bay Sail & Power Squadron
Meeting Minutes - corrected
February 13, 2014**

Meeting Location: Farmhouse Restaurant

Start Time: 6:00 p.m.

Attendance: Good. Always better when there is some attendance.

Invocation by Dale Libby in the absence of Ruth Peterson.

Flag Salute led by Albert Miller.

Introduction of guest speaker Ted Schlund, San Juan Marine Area Manager, Washington State Parks.

Treasurer's Report by Marlene Bellinger: Current balance 1/31/14 was \$2773.23.

Secretary's Report in the absence of George Johnson:

Shipwreck Day booth has been ordered. Same spot as previous years at 8th and Commercial.
January meeting minutes approved.

Education Dept. Report by Paul Rosetter:

ABC will be taught April 7 - 23 at Anacortes Marina. Paul Rosetter will be lead instructor. (Error in January minutes said start date was April 4).

Administrative Officer's Report:

Boating Activities reported by Donna Mason;
Feb 15 Langley WA Day Trip
March 15 Friday Harbor Ferry Day Trip
April 11-13 Sidney BC trip reported by host Bob Miller
August 15-24 BC Canada cruise and customs clearing info

Executive Officer's Report:

Now taking orders for shirts for 2014. Color is maroon with compass rose underneath. See order form in newsletter.
COW will be informal again this year. We will order off of the whiteboard menu as we do at regular meeting.

Commander's Report by Kelly Libby:

Cap Sante Academy classes are posted at the marina. Contact Sheila at the marina if you're interested in signing up. Email w/particulars to be sent to the group.

New or Old Business:

Jean Miller gave Nominations Committee report.

Meeting adjourned at a perfect time.

Guest Speaker Ted Schlund provided an overview of Washington State Marine Parks facilities and programs.

Thanks to Kari Randall-Secrest for taking great notes in the Secretary's absence.

Skagit Bay Sail & Power Squadron

Meeting Minutes

March 13, 2014

Meeting Location: Farmhouse Restaurant

Start Time: 6:30 p.m.

Attendance:

David Starrett	Jeri Starrett	George Johnson
Sandy Johnson	Crescent Moegling	George Brooks
Jeanne Brooks	John Bellinger	Marlene Bellinger
Dale Libby	Kelly Libby	Donna Mason
Paul Rosetter	Debbie Richey	Albert Miller
Sharon Knowles	Bill Thisius	Bunny Thisius
Mike Connell	Bob Miller	Sharon Robertson
Bill Robertson		

Flag Salute led by Albert Miller

Invocation by Dale Libby

Guest Speaker introduced by Commander Kelly Libby:

Crescent Moegling, Northwest Navigation Manager, NOAA

Treasurer's Report by Marlene Bellinger:

\$2698.95 balance 2/28/14. Bank statement submitted to Secretary.

New dues structure approved by membership vote and will be submitted to National office:

Single \$17, previously \$15.10

Family \$24, previously \$20.40

District has raised 2014 dues, and National has not.

Secretary's Report by George Johnson:

February minutes previously published in Bitter End will be amended to include Boating Activities Report presented by Donna Mason. Amended minutes approved.

Administrative Officer's Report by Debbie Richey in Mark Richey's absence:

Donna Mason reminds all that Friday Harbor ferry day trip is upcoming Friday, 3/15/14.

Bob Miller, host for Sidney rendezvous, reports preparations in full swing:

April 11-13 in Sidney Harbor.

So far Friday Harbor Squadron has 5 boats, Skagit Bay 3 boats.

Block of slips reserved on "G" dock.

Five couples are going by ferry.

Education Department Report by Paul Rosetter:

ABC April 7-23, Monday and Wednesday evenings, at Anacortes Marina.

Albert Miller and Sharon Knowles completed the On-The-Water training program with Bellingham Squadron and are quite enthusiastic about the activity.

Executive Officer's Report by Kelly Libby in Kari Randall-Secrest's absence:

We need more Vessel Safety Examiners. Let us say that again. We need more Vessel Safety Examiners.

Albert Miller is completing his training for VSE. Thank you, Albert.

Commander's Report by Kelly Libby:

Audit Committee will meet with Treasurer Marlene Bellinger at Jimmy's Pizza in Stanwood before Change of Watch, and will prepare audit report for presentation during COW. Committee members are Sandy Johnson, Sharon Knowles, Mike Connell and Dale Libby.

Election of officers - Slate presented in March Bitter End approved unanimously.

Guest speaker Crescent Moegling presented an overview of NOAA's Navigation Services Division, including its organization, responsibilities, resources and capabilities.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m..



Port Sidney Marina
Sophisticated Oasis



Skagit Bay and Friday Harbor Joint Rendezvous in Sidney, BC

11-13 April 2014

Hosts: Bob and Jean Miller, bobmillerwa@hotmail.com, 360-588-9950 (home), 360-540-1686 (boat)

Where: Port of Sidney Marina, BC, <http://www.portsidney.com/>, 48° 39' N, 123° 24'W, VHF CH 66A

Come on over to Vancouver Island, BC, and join Bob and Jean Miller (and Bodhi, the orange tabby boat cat) as we visit nearby Sidney on (with luck) a nice Spring weekend. The host boat will be the *Loon Song*. This will be a great chance for members of the Skagit Bay and Friday Harbor squadrons to check out their boats in preparation for Spring cruising.

The Town of Sidney (sometimes called Sidney-by-the-Sea or the ‘Book Store Village’ is a great place to spend the weekend, with plenty of good restaurants, nice galleries, and lots of chocolate shops! Bob always says “Chocolate is one of the basic food groups.”

The Port Sidney Marina features wide concrete docks, lots of space (at least early in the season), and is located at the base of the main shopping street. Winter rates are still in effect. We may use the Party Dock for a Saturday afternoon ‘meet and greet’ (if it doesn’t get sold before then).

SBSPS Planned Activities: Not many; this is a way kicked-back rendezvous. Just wander along the streets and waterfront, get some exercise, do some shopping, eat some stuff, and take it easy. On Saturday night we will go to a restaurant, which will be chosen by the rendezvous attendees.

How to Get There --

By Boat: Sidney is about 35 nautical miles from Cap Sante in Anacortes and less than 20 miles from Friday Harbor. If leaving from Anacortes, turn left out of Fidalgo Bay into Guemes Channel and just head west. You may have to dodge some islands and large white and green ferry boats, but the cruise is protected and scenic. Look for the orca pods and other wild life. Upon arriving at the entrance to the channel to the marina, hail Port Sidney Marina on VHF Ch 66A, to get docking directions after you clear Canadian customs inside.

By Ferry: The Anacortes-Sidney Washington State ferry leaves Anacortes at 08:30 am and arrives in Sidney by 11:10 am, with a stop in Friday Harbor (departs Friday Harbor at 09:55 am). On Sunday, catch the 12:05 pm ferry to arrive back in Friday Harbor at 1:20 pm and Anacortes by 3:00 pm.

Lodging in Sidney: There are several hotels within walking distance of the ferry terminal and the marina. <http://www.sidneybritishcolumbia.com/Accommodation/results.asp?region=20&city=43&interest=all&webregionid=1>

Passports and Border Control: US Passports are required to get back into the USA and facilitate entry into Canada. Standard Drivers Licenses are not adequate identification. Ferry riders are checked as they exit in Sidney, and in Friday Harbor. Boaters tie up to the customs dock in the turning basin at the marina and use the direct line phone on the dock for clearance. Returning to the USA, boaters can phone US Customs and Border Protection while underway at 800-562-5943.

Reservations for Your Boat: Please make your own reservation at Port of Sidney Marina on their website at <http://www.portsidney.com/contact-us/reservations/> or phone the office at 250-655-3711. Also send an email to the cruise coordinator (see next section).

To Signup: Send an email to Bob Miller, Skagit Bay SPS, bobmillerwa@hotmail.com, listing the names of the people attending the rendezvous, the date of arrival, mode of arrival (boat, ferry), and the boat name if coming by boat. If on a boat, also include the LOA, beam, and power requirements (30 or 50 amps), and your docking preference (bow or stern in, port or starboard tie).

More Information

Town of Sidney website, <http://www.sidney.ca/> BC Tourism site for Sidney, <http://www.sidneybritishcolumbia.com/>

WA State Ferry Schedule for Anacortes-Sidney, <http://www.wsdot.com/ferries/schedule/ScheduleDetailByRoute.aspx?schedrouteid=1558>

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.

Course Passed	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
ABC	42	20	29	15	24
Seamanship		8	2		10
Piloting		4	1		
Advanced Piloting	3	3			
Junior Navigation	8		9	1	
Navigation					
Cruise Planning					
Instructor Development (Instructor Recert)					
Engine Maintenance					
Marine Electronics	9				
Marine Communications					
Marine Electrical Syst					
Weather					
Sail					
Operations Training	3	2			

Bridge Officers		
Commander	Kelly Libby, S	360-435-3835
Executive Officer	Kari Randall-Secrest, N	360-387-1194
Education Officer	Vacant	
Administrative Officer	Mark Richey, SN	360-387-1260
Secretary	George Johnson, SN	360-588-8125
Treasurer	Marlene Bellinger, AP	360-757-8091
Executive Committee		
	Bob Miller, JN	360-588-9950
	Lynn Stewart, P	360-424-1270
	Sandy Johnson, P	360-588-8125
	Vacant	
Commander Department		
Chaplain	Ruth Peterson, SN	360-293-1888
Flag Lt.	Albert Miller, P	360-391-1897
Port Captain	Vacant	
Law Officer	Vacant	
Merit Marks	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
	Jean Miller, N	360-588-9950
	John Bellinger, SN	360-757-8091
Executive Department		
Co-Op Charting	Lynn Stewart, P	360-424-1270
Liaison	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Public Relations	Deanna Randall-Secrest, N	360-387-1194
Asst Public Relations	Albert Miller	360-466-3470
Radio Technical	George Brooks, SN	360-391-1897
Safety	Bill Stewart, JN	360-424-1270
Vessel Exams	Rick Anderson, SN	360-757-6241
Education Department		
Assistant Education Officer	Paul Rosetter, AP	360-595-1083
Local Board Public Boating	George Johnson, SN	360-588-8125
Local Board Advanced	Rick Anderson, SN	360-757-6241
Grades	John Bellinger, SN	360-757-8091
Local Board Elect Courses		
Administrative Department		
Boating Activities	Donna Mason, AP	360-595-1083
Galley	Sandy Evans	360-305-8330
Greeting	Sandy Evans	360-305-8330
	Dale Libby, P	360-435-3835
Membership	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Operations Training	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Programs	Mark Richey, SN	360-387-1260
Property Officer	Mark Richey, SN	360-387-1260
Supply Officer	Mark Richey, SN	360-387-1260
Telephone	Mark Richey, SN	360-387-1260
	Sandy Evans	360-305-8330
	Bill Stewart, JN	360-424-1270
Secretary's Department		
Editor "Bitter End"	Mark Richey, SN	360-435-3835
Historian	Lynn Stewart, P	360-424-1270
Roster	Bob Miller, JN	360-588-9950
Scrapbook	Coco Haynes, S	360-293-0592
Webmaster	Kari Secrest, N	360-387-1194
Auditing Committee		
1 Yr Chair	Sandy Johnson, P	360-588-8125
2 Yrs.	Dale Libby, P	360-435-3835
3 Yrs.	Sharon Knowles, AP	
Nominating Committee		
1 Yr. Chair	Jean Miller, N	360-588-9950
2 Yrs.	Deanna Randall, N	360-387-1194
3 Yrs.	George Brooks, SN	360-466-3470
Rules Committee		
1 Yr. Chair	Ruth Peterson, SN	360-293-1888
2 Yrs.	Bill Stewart, JN	360-424-1270
3 Yrs.	John Bellinger, SN	360-757-8091