

# THE BITTER END

## News from Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron May 2016



Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the friends <sup>SM</sup>

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

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



### CALENDAR



- 12 May—General Meeting, Farmhouse
- 13-15 May—Dock Party/Rendezvous, LaConner Marina
- 20 May—Wear Your Life Jacket to Work Day
- 3-5 June—Anacortes Waterfront Festival, See this issue
- 9 June—General Meeting, Farmhouse



Checkout our Facebook Group by clicking here <https://www.facebook.com/groups/SBSPS/> and feel free to add fun stuff, photos, comments that the public might be interested in.



#### Commander's Message Donna J. Mason, AP

Opening Day of the Boating Season was 7 May, but SBSPS was ahead of the game thanks to Bob and Jean Miller who hosted The Sidney B.C. Canada rendezvous April 22-24. Several squadron boats joined the

Millers, on "Loon Song," at the Port of Sidney Marina. Other squadron members took the WA State ferry. Let us know how you celebrated the opening of the boating season.

National Safe Boating Week is 21-27 May this year. For those of you who work at a job outside your home, 20 May is "Wear Your Life Jacket to Work Day." Imagine the conversation opportunities to talk about safe boating and wearing life jackets! Free promotional materials will be handed out at our May meeting.

Saturday, May 21 is "Wear It" Campaign Day. People in cities around the world will participate to set a world record for the most life jackets worn. The goal is to promote how comfortable and versatile life jackets are while educating the public about safe boating. SBSPS doesn't have a rendezvous scheduled that weekend, but if you play to be boating with a group of 10 or more people, take a photo of your group all wearing life jackets. Register your event at <http://www.readyssetwearit.com/register-event/>. Even if you're not boating that day, imagine the attention you'd get wearing a life vest to a Mariner's game, for

example, and it would open up the conversation to be sure to wear a life vest! I'll be fishing at Lake Winnebogishish in Minnesota that day, and I'm going to try to round up a group of fishers at the lodge for a group Change of Watch was an upbeat start to the new squadron year. Over 30 attended, and we were able to welcome some new members. The new Bridge and ExCom were sworn in, and what a delight it is to see our newsletter's extensive list of Bridge and Committee volunteers. If you want to see all the photos that D16 photographer Steve Erickson took, go to the D16 website <http://usps-d16.smugmug.com/>.

Our June Members Meeting will be held Thursday, June 9 at the Farmhouse Restaurant. Due to an unfortunate snag with Cap Sante Marina, we are forced to cancel our Members Meeting and Cookout at the Anacortes Waterfront Festival Saturday, June 4. The June meeting is our last for the summer, and Members Meetings will resume in the fall.

Please start saving your unwanted, unused but in-good-condition household items for donation to our squadron's booth at Anacortes Shipwreck Day July 16. This is our big fundraiser for the year, and we would like our squadron accounts to at least break even for the year. For those of you who itemize your Income Tax return, USPS is a 501(c)3 organization, and your donations to our squadron are tax deductible at the "resale shop value."

For those of you who are new to Skagit Bay squadron and to United States Power Squadrons, there is a wealth

of information on the [www.USPS.org](http://www.USPS.org) website. Log in with your certificate # (for most, your # begins with E) and your PIN (listed on your membership notice). If you cannot locate these items, or have trouble logging in, please let me know. You'll find things like your member benefits and discounts, what other squadrons are doing, what types of courses are offered, what those letters before and after names mean, what the different positions are responsible for and how the organization operates (yes, there's an Operations Manual). The more you know about USPS, the more you can benefit from your membership!

Speaking of websites, have you visited ours recently? Kari Randall-Secrest has done a wonderful job updating our website. Check it out: [www.skagitsquadron.org](http://www.skagitsquadron.org).

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### **Boating Activities** **Donna J. Mason, AP**

**May 13-15 LaConner Marina Rendezvous** See Kari and Deanna's announcement for details.

Regarding upcoming activities, I'm noticing an emerging trend: with the economy doing better and more people out boating, it is getting more difficult to reserve spots and make the type of arrangements we used to make easily.

**June 3-5 Anacortes Waterfront Festival, Cap Sante.** We will have space for boats at the Marina Entrance end of B Dock for our rendezvous. Unfortunately, the Cap Sante Marina reneged on their agreement earlier this year for a party float. We will not have the floating dock and BBQ equipment. The Saturday members cookout is cancelled, and the new June Members Meeting date is June 9. See Commander's column, Page 1.

If you want a slip for the Waterfront Festival, please soon as possible, email [donnajmason@gmail.com](mailto:donnajmason@gmail.com) with your boat name, vessel ID#, vessel make, length overall, beam, preference for power, port or starboard tie, arrival date and departure date.

**June 11 is National Get Outdoors Day.** Great excuse to get your friends out for a boating excursion!

**Cancelled and possibly rescheduled: June 17-19 Sucia Island, Fossil Bay Remote Dock or Anchor Out Rendezvous,** hosted by Mark and Debbie Richey. This is Father's Day weekend, there will be large crowds, and no space on the docks. The picnic shelter was already taken in February when Deanna and Kari called to reserve it. At our May Members Meeting, we'll discuss a couple of alternative dates that, as of now, the shelter is available.



## **La Conner Marina Rendezvous: 13-15 May**

Join hosts Kari and Deanna for our squadron's first La Conner Marina Rendezvous, May 13-15. Travel by car or boat - your choice!

### Marina Information

The [La Conner Marina](#) is located at 613 North 2nd Street in La Conner and is split into 2 parts, a north basin and south basin. We will be tying up at the visitor's dock located in the south basin from which you can easily walk and shop the town's waterfront.

### Arrival & Moorage

Your hosts are planning to arrive at the ["F" visitor dock](#) by 1:00 pm on Friday May 13th, which is check-in time. The [moorage rate](#) is \$1.00/ft/day and 30-amp power is included. To reserve a slip, you'll need to call the marina at 360-466-3118 or make your reservation online by following the links at the bottom of their [guest moorage reservations page](#). Please note the first night is required when you make your reservation and is non-refundable. When you make your reservation, be sure to let the marina know that you're with Skagit Bay Sail & Power Squadron. We have 5 remaining slips penciled in for our group, but you'll need to make your reservation soon, or we'll lose them as the date approaches.

If you've never [navigated the Swinomish Channel](#), no need to worry ... simply keep in mind that when docking, you'll want to be headed against the current. The current in the channel flows north when going to a high tide and flows to the south when going to a low tide. The best time to arrive at the marina is at slack which is typically 2.5 to 4 hours before or after high or low tide.

\*One tip we might add: If you are unsure which direction the current is flowing when you arrive, take a look at the front of the [nearby La Conner fuel dock building](#) because they have a sign

with a red arrow indicating the direction the current is flowing at the moment.

### Schedule

Our schedule is light at this rendezvous, so you'll have plenty of time to relax and explore beautiful La Conner. Join us for a light happy hour on the dock at 4:30 pm Friday afternoon and then dinner at the La Conner Brewery at 6:00 pm.

Saturday evening, we'll enjoy a potluck dinner back on our dock at 6:00 pm. Bring your favorite dish to share, and your beverage of choice.

Sunday means it's time to head back to our home ports, check-out time is 12 noon.

Please let us know if you plan on attending, either by boat or car, so we can get a head count for the restaurant reservation on Friday and/or the potluck on Saturday. Sure hope you can join us for our first ever rendezvous in lovely La Conner!

Contact your hosts by sending an email to [kasndmr@gmail.com](mailto:kasndmr@gmail.com) or give us a call at home (360-387-1194) or via cell (360-708-5434).

### Pictures from our recent Sidney BC Shindig



Carolyn Caporgno, Donna Mason, Sandy Johnson, Deanna



Rolf Nesse, Kari Randall-Secrest, Anne Nesse, Jean Miller



### SHIPWRECK DAY 2016 P/C George Johnson, SN

Shipwreck Day in Anacortes this year is **July 16**. We start by asking friends, relatives and neighbors if they might have something to donate to our non-profit USPS. The donation is tax deductible, and our EIN # is 43-1971183. We even have a "Donation Request" form, and occasionally a business or individual might want it. So far, that's been 3 times in our first 14 years of doing Shipwreck Day. (George Johnson will email that form to those who ask). If necessary, George can coordinate pick-up and delivery to the squadron. This year our storage unit is almost full, so we will ask people to hold on to stuff until July, if convenient. We have a 40 ft. booth, two sides, so we have 80 ft. of table space.

In early July we have a "pricing day". You might want to help with that. Several of us meet at the storage unit in West Burlington in the afternoon and price our goods. It's fun, takes about an hour or two, and then we go to dinner at a local inexpensive restaurant.

On the Friday before Shipwreck Day a few of us with trucks or big SUV's meet at the storage unit and load up. Be careful about volunteering for that because it means you have to arrive on the street at our booth site by 5:30 a.m. the next morning. (It's OK if one vehicle can't arrive early. We just add their load to our sales tables whenever they can get there. Not a biggie.)

On the big day those with our stuff arrive at our booth site between 5:15 and 5:30 a.m. to set things up. Bring your own donuts and coffee. We have 8 tables, two canopies and other booth equipment, plus all the goods.

Sales start as soon as anybody wants to buy something, often as we unload, but official sales hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.. We must have everything off of the street by 5:00 p.m. (and the City really means 5:00 p.m.). A few of us will again load our trucks/SUV's with the leftovers. Some will go back to our storage unit, and some will go to Goodwill or equivalent, or to "other places". At 5:00 p.m. we walk to dinner in town at some inexpensive restaurant.

We always have 15 or more members, not all at once, who help with the selling at some point during the day. Everybody takes time to walk the street looking for more stuff they don't really need.

It's a super day, one of our best social events of the year.

This will be our 14th year at Shipwreck Day. It's been our primary fundraiser.

As you can see, there are plenty of things to do, and we welcome everyone's involvement.

[georgeandsandy@comcast.net](mailto:georgeandsandy@comcast.net)  
360-588-8125

More Sidney Photos  
Co-host Bob Miller offering wine



Glen Caporgno, Paul Rosetter

Bob Miller, Dick Hunter, George Johnson

Saturday Dinner Crowd at Odyssea Restaurant



**Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron  
United States Power Squadron  
Change of Watch - Meeting Minutes  
April 14, 2016**

The following members were in attendance:

Sharon Knowles	George Johnson	Sandy Johnson
John Bellinger	Marlene Bellinger	Sheryl Wytychak
Mike Wytychak	Bob Miller	Kari Randall-Secret
Deanna Randall-Secret	Dick Hunter	Debbie Richey
Mark Richey	Donna Mason	Paul Rosetter
Ruth Peterson	Steve Erickson	Bill Poindexter
Heather Frakes	Barbara Erickson	Jack Dyer
Craig Ford	Billie Ford	Carolyn Caporgno
Glen Caporgno	Ken Smith	Pat Diehl
Christine Rasmussen	Otto Rasmussen	

Meeting location: Farmhouse Restaurant

Meeting called to order: 1835

Flag salute

Invocation – Ruth Peterson

Introductions

Business Items:

March meeting minutes approved with correction of spelling of “Richey”

Debbie Richey reported the Education Seminar will be held 4/30/16 at the Bellevue Coast Hotel, instructor re-certification available

Bob Miller announced he will be issuing a new roster

Debbie Richey requested we add a link on how to join the squadron directly on our home page for easier access.

Ken Smith reminded meeting attendees that June is Washington State’s boat registration renewal month, so don’t forget.

Outgoing Commander Kari Randall-Secret dismissed the current bridge members:

Secretary: Sharon Knowles



## Annual District 16 Rendezvous

Port of Poulsbo 24-26 June 2016

**Docking:** The Tacoma Squadron's Docking Specialists will be assisting in assigning docking spots, arrival of boats and docking. Please call in on VHF 72, prior to entering the marina. Even if you do not wish assistance in docking, please inform the docking crew of your arrival.

**Registration:** Friday and Saturday, rendezvous check-in will be at the Multi-Purpose Room (MPR) located at the entrance to "E dock". Times for registration will be posted on front of the building. You must send in the non-refundable \$5.00 dock reservation fee with your reservation to ensure you will have a confirmed slip. The remainder of your moorage fees (for your entire stay), must be paid directly to the Port of Poulsbo, i.e. not to District 16. Please check in on VHF 72 when your boat arrives at the marina. The reservation for your meals and moorage must be received by 10 June 2016. No guarantees for the dinner or dock space after this date.

**Friday Evening Social:** The Docktail Party is from 1700-1900 on "E Dock". Please bring hors d'oeuvres from your squadron's favorite regional American Cuisine. Boaters-bring tables to set up on the finger docks between boats. All alcoholic beverages must remain within the docks and cannot pass the ramp. The best American Region themed serving station décor, food taste and variety winners will be honored with trophies and bragging rights.

**Saturday Morning's Opening Ceremony:** It will begin at 1000 Sharp on the outside grass area which is directly at the rear of the Sons of Norway Hall's area. The SS Hurricane Sea Scouts will serve as the honor guard to present the colors, followed by the invocation.

**Fire Extinguisher and Flare Practice:** A fire extinguisher practice session is planned for Saturday morning between 1030 and 1200 at the adjacent park's fire pit. During the same time, there will be a flare shoot of outdated aerial and hand-held flares on the beach behind the Sons of Norway Hall. If you have any outdated flares, please bring them to the practice site. This is a great opportunity to obtain "hands-on" experience with your on-board safety equipment. Bob Miller, SN (Poverty Bay) will be the Range Safety Officer for the two exercises.

**Breakout Sessions and Seminars: 10:30-12:00, SON Hall.** Three sessions will run simultaneously:

- a) **Youth Poster Contest-**Materials and instructions will be provided for children ages 6-14.
- b) **Sticks & Strings-** A knitting/Needlework Seminar. Barbara Erickson will lead this interesting presentation. Sample projects will be on view.
- c) **Optimizing your Website-** Strategies to optimize the effectiveness of your website. This timely seminar will be presented by Matthew Lombardi.

**Extending Our Reach: 1300-1700 E Dock.** A side benefit of extending our reach within our community may improve our recruitment and retention. Using the same style of presentation used in Sea Skills program, Squadrons will share what works for extending their reach.

**Saturday Evening Dinner:** A "No Host Bar" will be available 1700-2200 and Dinner will be served at 1800. Both Dinner and the Bar will be provided by and held at the SON Hall. We hope each Squadron will bring 1 dessert or more for each 8 members to share. We also ask each Squadron to donate a NEW nautical item valued in the range \$35-\$50. Bring your donation to the upper floor of the SON Hall at 1530. The raffle will open at 1700. Stay after the raffle and claim your awards! Event times are subject to change. Questions? Call D/Lt/C Monem at 360-279-8972 or [ao@uspsd16.org](mailto:ao@uspsd16.org).

## Annual District 16 Rendezvous at Port of Poulsbo: 24-26 June 2016

**Registration:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Squadrons: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Meal Reservations:** Reservations for all meals must be received on or before 10 June. No guarantee for Sons of Norway catered dinners will be given after this date!!

**Friday Night Social:** No host (BYOB) "Dock Tail Party" from 1700 to 1930 on "E Dock." Squadrons will have tables set up between their boats on the finger docks for serving hors d'oeuvres from their favorite Regional American Cuisine to share with fellow district members and guests.

**Saturday Evening Dinner:** BBQ Pork Ribs or Chicken, Green Salad, Baked Beans, Potato Salad & Cornbread: \$23.00/person. Children (10 and under): \$12.00

<b># Attending</b>	<b>\$ Amount</b>
_____ (Adults)	_____
_____ (Children)	_____

Please note selection and quantity: Ribs \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken \_\_\_\_\_

**Thursday thru Saturday** –Advanced Coastal Navigator and Coastal Navigator Certifiers will be available on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. For questions and sign-up, contact R/C Robert Anderson at 360-876-2874 or at [passage1@wavecable.com](mailto:passage1@wavecable.com).

<p><b><u>MOORAGE RESERVATIONS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For mooring reservations, pay \$5.00 to D/16, as an advance guarantee (to be paid on or before 12 June, 2015, <u>Non Refundable</u>).</li> <li>• Pay Port of Poulsbo Marina after arrival for all moorage: <u>\$ .90/foot with 30' minimum charge; includes electrical hook-up (30amp).</u></li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Docking Request: (Please Circle)</u></b></p> <p>(Bow or Stern)      (Port or Starboard)</p> <p>Reservation Fee: \$5.00 &amp; _____</p> <p><small>This fee is non refundable, D16 has to prepay.</small></p>
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Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please Check Arrival Day: (Tuesday) (Wednesday) (Thursday) (Friday) (Saturday)  
 If you are coming by boat for any part of the D16 events PLEASE register with us by using this form.  
 Hail on Ch72 on arrival.

Boat Name: \_\_\_\_\_ LOA \_\_\_\_\_ Beam \_\_\_\_\_ Draft \_\_\_\_\_

Special Considerations: \_\_\_\_\_

**ACCOMMODATIONS:**  
 Call Guesthouse International Inn at 360-697-4400. Reference "USPSD16 for group rate of \$90.00 plus tax. **Group block rate closes May 24, 2016. Please make your hotel reservations early.**

**Please download this Registration Form, complete and mail with your payment by 10 June, 2016 to:**  
 P/D/C Joanna Webster, AP  
 31820—37<sup>th</sup> Ave. SW, Federal Way, 98023-2176  
 Make checks payable to: District 16  
 For Questions Contact D/Lt/C Mahmoud Abdel-Monem, SN, Phone: 360-279-8972.  
 E-mail: [ao@uspsd16.org](mailto:ao@uspsd16.org).


## 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.®**

<b>HAPPY MAY</b>	<b>BIRTHDAYS</b>
	<b>John Bennett</b> <b>Coco Haynes</b> <b>Deana Randall-Secrest</b> <b>Mark Richey</b>

**~ 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.



**Educational Department**  
**P/C Debbie Richey, AP**

As we approach summer, it's a good time to put your education to work. We are currently in the planning stages for more classes this fall. We have some new members that ready to further their education beyond ABC. This fall will be when we start teaching the classes again. Please let me know if there is a class you just waiting to take. There are several courses available on-line that are hosted by Boat US. As a USPS member you get a 20% discount for the cost of the course. They approximate price is \$30/course. The list of courses can be found here, <http://www.usps.org/edonline/>.

One of the areas that is always needing help, is teaching. If you are interested in teaching a class, please let me know. One of the reasons for the delay in teaching some of the courses is the lack of instructors. You don't have to be an expert in the field you are willing to teach. USPS provides an instructor manual and the PowerPoint slides to teach with. You just have to like getting up in front of people.

Thanks for a great year so far.

Bridge Officers		
Commander	Donna Mason, AP	360 595-1083
Executive Officer	Mark Richey, SN	425-876-6274
Education Officer	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Administrative Officer	Richard Hunter, P	206 851-2831
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
	Kelly Libby, S	425-359-7078
Commander Department		
Chaplain	Ruth Peterson, SN	360-293-1888
Flag Lt.	Craig Ford	360 333-5308
Port Captain	Vacant	
Law Officer	Vacant	
Merit Marks	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
	Vacant	
	Vacant	
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	Vacant	
Radio Technical	Vacant	
Safety	Bill Stewart, JN	360-424-1270
Vessel Exams	Vacant	
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
Galley	Vacant	
Greeting	Craig Ford	360 333-5308
	Billie Ford	360 941-1956
Membership	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Operations Training	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Programs	Richard Hunter, P	206 851-2831
Property Officer	Vacant	
Supply Officer	Sheryl Wytychak	208-704-2249
Telephone	Vacant	
Secretary's Department		
Editor "Bitter End"	Mark Richey, SN	425-876-6274
Historian	Lynn Stewart, P	360-424-1270
Public Contact	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Roster	Bob Miller, JN	360-588-9950
Scrapbook	Vacant	
Webmaster / IT	Kari Randall-Secrest, N	360-387-1194
Auditing Committee		
1 Yr Chair	Elisabeth Libby, S	425 923-9368
2 Yrs.	Judy Bennett, S	707-443-2855
3 Yrs.	Billie Ford	360 941-1956
Nominating Committee		
1 Yr. Chair	Kelly Libby, S	425-359-7078
2 Yrs.	Paul Rosetter, AP	360 595-1083
3 Yrs.	George Johnson, SN	360-588-8125
Rules Committee		
1 Yr. Chair	John Bellinger, SN	360-757-8091
2 Yrs.	Ruth Peterson, SN	360-293-1888
3 Yrs.	Vacant	

Please note the vacancies. This is a fun group and you don't have to have a grade to have a committee position. 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 or an officer.