



# THE BITTER END

## News from Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron September 2017



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)

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

**AMERICA'S  
BOATING CLUB**



## CALENDAR

14 Sept—Regular Meeting, Farmhouse  
30 Sept—Annual Charter Party, Cornet Bay  
6-8 Oct—Rosario Resort Rendezvous, Orcas Island



**Almost Fall folks. This is usually good weather for us and we have lots coming up but be careful of the kiddies back in school. The humpies should be in for you fisher folk! Crabbing closed on inside but still open in San Juans.**



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

The cruising season is winding down for many boaters this time of year. Hearty boaters whose boats have good heaters will continue throughout the year. I hope you enjoyed a good boating season and are ready for fall squadron activities.

Thanks go to our member and Skagit County Sheriff's Office Lt. Deanna Randall-Secrest for giving many of our squadron members a wonderful, informative, personalized tour of the new Community Justice System Center at the end of July. One can't get more state-of-the-art than that facility. Impressive.

Our monthly meetings resume for fall beginning September 14. On the second Thursday of the month, except for December, we meet at The Farmhouse Restaurant at 13724 LaConner-Whitney Road, off Route 20 in Mount Vernon. We usually begin at 6 p.m. with social time followed by business meeting, dinner and a special program. One does not have to purchase dinner in order to attend. However, it does help our squadron get the meeting room at no charge.

Paul Rosetter and I are scheduled to represent our squadron at the USPS® District 16 booth at the Puyallup Fair September 8 from Noon to 2 p.m. If you're going to the fair that day, stop by and say "hi."

Our Educational Department has two upcoming courses: America's Boating Course beginning September 6 and Seamanship beginning October 2. Both will be taught at the Anacortes Marina.

A big THANKS go to P/C George Johnson, SN who, after Shipwreck Day, sold two large, bulky items from

our storage locker: a Pilates exercise system and a 40 hp boat motor, which netted over \$3,000 to our squadron treasury. George makes a great shopkeeper.

It isn't only yacht clubs whose burgees are displayed in restaurants and pubs. We've provided burgees to the LaConner Pub (where we have our December holiday party) and to Anthony's Cabana in Anacortes. Look for our brochures in many boating places such as marine stores and marina offices. I'll have brochures available at the September meeting for you to keep on your boat or in your car so you can give one to someone who might be interested in or need a boating course. It would be great if we all took part in getting our message out and making more people aware of our organization.

### Mark your calendars for these upcoming SBSPPS Members Meetings

September 14 "Stupid Things People Do Structurally To Their Boats" – my title; a North Harbor Diesel representative will discuss how not to maintain your boat. They were too polite to use my title and didn't want to insult anyone.

October 12 Our members Craig and Billie Ford will present "Chartering and Cruising in the Caribbean"

November 9 Capt. Deborah Dempsey, 40-year maritime veteran, first American female to be licensed as a master mariner and to command cargo ships on international voyages, subject of the 1998 book The Captain's A Woman, Tales of A Merchant Mariner, and instrumental in launching the Community Boating Center in Bellingham, WA.

December 9 our Squadron Holiday Party and Boat Parade at the LaConner Pub.

January 11, 2018 Our Annual Rendezvous Planning Meeting February 8 Nominations, "China's Yangtze River and The Mighty Three Gorges Dam"

March 8 Election

April 12 Change of Watch

## Boating Activities

Cdr Donna Mason, AP

Our next few boating activities will have special hosts.

Over Labor Day weekend, some of our boats participated in the Joint Everett/Seattle squadrons rendezvous to Port Hudson Marina in Port Townsend.

SBSPS boats participating are Dale Libby in Fish-N-Chicks, Anne and Rolf Nesse in Mystic Knot. Another one of our boats would have joined the party, but dock space was filled to capacity.

Saturday, September 30, is the Squadron's Anniversary Cookout at Washington State Park's Coronet Bay near Deception Pass. Paul and I cannot attend and P/C Kari and Deanna Randall-Secrest stepped up to host this event. September 30 is one of the State Parks "free" day use days where you do not have to have a Discover Pass for parking. The picnic shelter is reserved (thank you Kari for doing this last January after our rendezvous planning meeting). Kari and Deanna will email an announcement with details.

October 6-8 is the Rosario Resort Orcas Island Weekend Rendezvous to be hosted by Anton and Margaret Kerkove. They will announce details later. Rosario now has new, better organized boat slips. You can see the new marina map and photo on their website. Winter slip rates go into effect this year on September 16, so for the rendezvous, slips will be charged at only \$1/foot. The marina is aware that our squadron plans to rendezvous there that weekend.

Website: [www.rosarioresort.com](http://www.rosarioresort.com). By the way, the resort website has a webcam, so you might log on over that weekend and see our squadron boats there!

For the Canada cruise report, please see our squadron website [www.skagitsquadron.org](http://www.skagitsquadron.org)

## VE Notes - September

**Program consistency and Credibility:** It happens just about every boating season. I will be unable to issue a VSC sticker for some infraction only to be informed the boat had passed the previous year(s) with the infraction as I found it. Usually, such infractions fall into that category I previously mentioned "not so easy to fix". Makes for an unhappy, and often skeptical, vessel owner who

might turn doubtful of the examiners qualifications and question program credibility.

This was another beautiful vessel I had the privilege to board. It was shipshape in every way, except for how the *official document number* was displayed. The owner, who clearly had pride in his vessel, had a professionally manufactured number placard simply screwed to a cabinet in the helm area. Clearly not permanently attached in such a way removal or replacement would be obvious. The problem was this boat had been issued a VSC sticker last year and years prior. Therein lays the issue. Inconsistent application of VSC program guidance and federal and state regulations. This problem will not be going away anytime soon but I do think it's getting better. The new Vessel Safety Check Manual (2014) is much improved from past reference materials, provides VE's with detail guidance, and will help minimize inconsistencies and improve credibility. So that being said.....

**More VE's needed:** Our Squadron could use a few more examiners. There are plenty of opportunities for participation in various events, especially early in the boating season. Once qualified, you need do only five inspections annually to maintain currency. It's a good way to see some great boats of all makes and vintage, meet some very nice people, and even learn something along the way. *Fall and winter is a great time to get started so if you might be interested please contact me.* I'm more than willing to help. If you would like to preview the VE Manual before making a decision to become qualified, it can be found on the USPS Website. Find VSC at the site index.

Don Coleman - VE

[colemandonb@gmail.com](mailto:colemandonb@gmail.com)

Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron Canada Cruise  
August 11-20, 2017



Port of Friday Harbor, August 11



Happy Hour, Poet's Cove, South Pender Island, B.C.



Happy Hour on Time Flies, August 12



Three cruising boats at Poet's Cove Resort:  
Time Flies, Mystic Knot, Fish-N-Chicks



Mystic Knot underway to Canada, August 13



Pub dinner at Poet's Cove  
August 13

## SBSPS Overnight train trip to Vancouver, B.C. Canada

November 11-12, 2017

Join us for an after-cruising-season excursion. I urge you to make your train and hotel reservations sooner than later for the best rates and availability.

**Amtrak** Make your reservation via [www.Amtrak.com](http://www.Amtrak.com) or with "Julie" at 800-872-7245. Discounts for AAA members and seniors. Buy your ticket online or with photo ID, get your tickets at the station. As of this writing, cost for two people is US\$68 round trip.

**Saturday, November 11: Amtrak Cascades Train #510 departs Mt. Vernon (MVN) at 9:26 a.m.** (Paul and I will get on the train in Bellingham at 9:57 a.m. Please save us two seats! I'll have trip packets to give to you then.) After clearing customs at the train station, we'll walk a short distance from the Vancouver train station and take public transportation to near our hotels, either check in or at least leave our luggage for safekeeping. We'll be ready for lunch by then.

**Saturday activities:** Using public transportation,

1. go to Granville Island's shops and galleries, enjoy the cute False Creek ferries. Day pass good for all stops can be purchased on the ferries: Adult CA\$16, or Senior over 65 CA\$12. More at: <http://www.granvilleislandferries.bc.ca>.
2. stay downtown for exhibits such as:
  - . Vancouver Art Gallery, 750 Hornby Street has a special exhibit "Emily Carr: Into the Forest" 45 British Columbia paintings in the unique style of this Canadian favorite artist. The museum opens at 10 a.m. if you choose to go Sunday. Website: [www.vanartgallery.bc.ca](http://www.vanartgallery.bc.ca). Admission: Adult CA\$24, Senior 65+ CA\$20.
  - . Vancouver Maritime Museum's "The Lost Fleet" exhibit at 1905 Ogden Avenue at Chestnut and Cypress Streets near the Space Center. The exhibit investigates the unjust 1941 seizure of 1,200 Japanese-Canadian fishing vessels following the bombing of Pearl Harbor through photographs, models, tools and documents. Admission approx.. CA\$10. Website: [www.vancouvermaritimemuseum.com](http://www.vancouvermaritimemuseum.com).
3. Sadly, the harbor cruises end in September/October. Perhaps a day trip in 2018?

**Saturday dinner** will be at 6:30 p.m. at Joe Fortes Seafood & Chop House, which we enjoyed on our 2015 train trip. Joe Fortes' is located at 777 Thurlow Street near Alberni and Robson Streets. Eat as much or as little as you wish. Website: [www.joefortes.ca](http://www.joefortes.ca).

**Sunday, November 12:** Breakfast on your own. We'll check out of our hotel by Noon. Free time to explore on your own until it is time to meet at the train station. Take public transportation to the train station.

**Amtrak Cascades Train #517 leaves Vancouver at 5:35 p.m. and arrives in Mt. Vernon at 8:07 p.m. Be at the station Vancouver Pacific Central, 1150 Station Street by 5 p.m!**

**HOTELS:** Not cheap in Vancouver. Remember our exchange rate advantage. I did several searches and the best I found for my criteria of best comparison rate, reasonable access from train station and public transportation (Sky train preferred), safe downtown neighborhood, safe walk back from restaurant Saturday night, decent amenities, and cancellation policy, was through AAA website (Priceline administered): Paul and I will be staying in a "king studio" at L'Hermitage Hotel, 788 Richards Street, direct website: [www.lhermitagevancouver.com](http://www.lhermitagevancouver.com). You, of course, are free to choose your own hotel; we'll try to finalize coordinating plans on the train ride north.

**TO DO: Before NOVEMBER 5** -- let me know you're coming, what hotel you'll stay in, and if you'll have Saturday dinner with us. I need to make the restaurant reservation.

It'll be rainy season so pack your umbrella and rain jackets. We recommend packing lightly with a backpack or small wheeled suitcase; you may be lugging it around. Don't forget your passports! Please bring your tolerance for possible train delays.

**Questions: call Donna at 360 595-0183 or email [donnajmason@gmail.com](mailto:donnajmason@gmail.com)**

**Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron  
United States Power Squadron  
Meeting Minutes  
June 3, 2017**

The following squadron members were also in attendance:

Donna Mason	Paul Rosetter	George Brooks	Jeanne Beooks
Mike Wytychak	Sheryl Wytychak	Anne Nesse	Rolf Nesse
Don Coleman	Steve Drummond	Bob Miller	Billie Ford
Craig Ford	Sandra Johnson	George Johnson	Deanna Randall-Secret
Kelly Libby	Elisabeth Libby	Dick Hunter	Kari Randall-Secret

\*quorum present

The following guests were in attendance: Greg Mustari, Blake Dalton

Meeting location: Cap Sante Marina

Meeting called to order @ 1800

Flag salute

Executive Officer's Report – John Bellinger (absent)

- Public Relations Officer - Kelly Libby
  - Actively promoting SBSPPS via her yacht sales business
- Safety Committee - George Brooks.
  - Reminder: VHF Channel 05A will become 1005
  - Home Owner's FYI: Washington state requires a CO detector in every bedroom.
- Vessel Safety Checks – Don Coleman
  - Many VSC's completed so far and Don will be available for VSCs at Anchor Cove next Saturday.

Squadron Educational Officer's Report – Instructor Bob Miller for SEO Debbie Richey

- Upcoming Fall classes are scheduled. Emails with course details will be sent out in July to squadron members.

Administrative Officer's Report – (vacant position) Donna Mason

- Boating Activities – Donna Mason
  - July 1-5 Squalicum Harbor 4<sup>th</sup> of July Rendezvous in Bellingham. Contact Donna to sign up.
  - July 28-30 – Lopez Island Rendezvous at Fisherman Bay. Contact Donna to sign up.
  - Aug 11-20 – Canada Cruise (Friday Harbor, Poet's Cove, Sidney, Roche Harbor). Contact Donna to sign up.
- Property Officer – George Johnson
  - We are receiving lots of items for Shipwreck Day, July 15. Contact George for details.
- Membership – Donna Mason for Debbie Richey
  - Please pay your dues in a timely manner.

Secretary's Report – Kari Randall-Secret:

- May minutes approved - motion to approve by Bob Miller, seconded by Deanna Randall-Secret, motion carried.
- Webmaster Report
  - Squadron has 3 email accounts. Bob Miller suggested we use the squadron's Gmail account (skagitbaysquadron@gmail.com) as our "official" email account and set up forwarding all emails from that account to the Secretary, Treasurer and Commander. Bob will use this account to set our squadron up with a Fed Ex account.
- Monthly newsletter, The Bitter End, will resume publication in September after summer break.

Treasurer's Report – Bob Miller

- Our account balance as of end of May is \$5,206.29, which is \$88 lower than this time last year.
- Bob is working on getting our Fed Ex account set up.

Commander's Report – Donna Mason

- Marketing Challenge Update: Today we set up and manned a literature booth on our float here at Cap Sante Marina where we served coffee/cookies and opened it to the public so they had an opportunity to learn more about USPS and our upcoming classes. Don Coleman provided VSCs as well.

Old Business:

- Cap Sante Marina update: We may or may not have a rendezvous at Cap Sante Marina next year due to difficulties meeting the marina's new rendezvous size requirements.

New Business: Deanna Randall-Secret will try to schedule for our members a tour of the new jail.

Don Coleman moved we adjourn the meeting. Donna Mason seconded. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned: 1820

Photos from Lopez Rendezvous July 28-30



Five of the six participating boats: Quiet Time, Mystic Knot, Fish-N-Chicks, Time Flies and Loon Song. On other side of the dock was Don Coleman's boat



Saturday potluck on the dock after visiting the Farmers Market: (L-R) Rolf Nesse, Jean Miller, Paul Rosetter, Donna Mason, Bob Miller, Debbie Richey, Anne Nesse, Dale Libby, Don Coleman, Mark Richey. Friday evening we walked to dinner at The Galley Restaurant.



Show and Tell: our treasures from the "Take It or Leave It" Recycling Center offerings.

Skagit Bay's 14<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cookout – Sept 30<sup>th</sup>

By Lt/C Kari Randall-Secret, SN

Come by boat or car and join Deanna and Kari for fun and cheer at our annual cookout where we'll celebrate our squadron's 14th anniversary! Rain or shine, we'll start the festivities at 2 pm at the covered picnic shelter at Cornet Bay State Park.

If you come by car, this is a "free parking day" in all of our Washington State Parks so there is no fee to park and if you come by boat, you can tie up on the docks but keep in mind that there are no hookups. If you choose to come by boat, the daily fee is 70 cents per foot, with a minimum of \$15.

We'll be providing the burgers and hot dogs with all the fixings, as well as an anniversary cake for dessert. Plates and utensils will also be provided. All we ask of you is to please bring your lawn chairs, a side dish or dessert to share with all our friends, and your beverage of choice.

For anyone interested, we'll break into teams after the BBQ for a merry game of Party Pictionary ... complete with prizes for the winners!

If you can, please let us know if you are planning on attending so that we can be sure we have enough food. There will be a sign-up sheet at the September meeting or feel free to email Kari at [kasndmr@gmail.com](mailto:kasndmr@gmail.com) or call me at 360-708-5434.

Looking forward to seeing you all at Cornet Bay on the 30<sup>th</sup>!



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

I hope you all had a great summer out on the water. Remember that we often have a great Indian summers up here and the crowds have gone home. The marinas and marine parks are pretty empty.

Our ABC class started on September 6 with 10 students. They are a great, enthusiastic group. The class is every Monday and Wednesday until September 27, feel free to stop by!

[Seamanship](#) will start right ABC on October 2. This course expands on the ABC course. You will learn more knots, what the skippers responsibilities are, how being on the water affects your health, and many more topics. For more information about the course, talk to Bob Miller. He will be the instructor for the course.

[Cruise Planning](#) is a great course to help you plan your cruise. You will learn how to provision, chartering, anchoring, security and other great information. For more information about the course, visit the USPS website. We are going to offer that starting in January.

Please let me know what other classes you might be interested in taking.

# Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron USPS Seamanship Course

Anacortes Marina, 2415 T Ave, Anacortes  
upstairs classroom

**Mondays, October 2, 2017 to November 27, 2017**  
**7:00 to 9:00 p.m.**

Build boating confidence and competence for safe and fun on-the-water adventures. *Seamanship 2016* provides a foundation of knowledge and skills in boat handling and maneuvering boat operation, skipper's responsibilities, and boating techniques that will advance your boating enjoyment.

**What's Included?** For both sail and power boats, *Seamanship* covers a wide range of topics:

- 
- Types of boats and how they behave on the water,
- Anchoring in various conditions,
- Docking and line handling,
- Close quarter maneuvering,
- Rules of the road,
- Communications with other boats,
- How to respond to various emergencies,
- Marlinespike basic knots,
- And other interesting topics.

The course materials include a 176-page *Student Guide* and the 158-page *The One-Minute Guide to the Nautical Rules of the Road*. The course is completed in nine two-hour sessions, including the final exam session.

**\$120 for individuals or \$160 for two sharing a book**  
**(USPS members, \$60 and \$85)**

**Contact Bob Miller at 360-588-9950 or bobmil-  
lerwa@hotmail.co**

**Registration closes September 10**

**Class is limited to 15 students**

## 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.®**



**HAPPY  
SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

Ruth Peterson  
Sheryl Wytychak  
Mike Wytychak

**~ 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.

# SAVE THE DATE !!!!

## “PICNIC AMERICAN STYLE” District 16 Fall Conference 27 –29 October 2017

**116 Coast Hotel Bellevue, 625 116th Ave  
NE, Bellevue, Washington**



**See <https://www.uspsd16.org/news-events> for details**

Bridge Officers		
Commander	Donna Mason, AP	360 595-1083
Executive Officer	John R. Bellinger, SN	360-757-8091
Education Officer	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Administrative Officer	<b>Vacant</b>	
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.	Glen & Carolyn Caporgno	209-484-2365
Port Captain	<b>Vacant</b>	
Law Officer	<b>Vacant</b>	
Merit Marks	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
	<b>Vacant</b>	
	<b>Vacant</b>	
Executive Department		
Co-Op Charting	Lynn Stewart, P	360-424-1270
Liaison	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Public Relations	Kelly Libby, S	425-359-7078
Asst Public Relations	<b>Vacant</b>	
Radio Technical	George Brooks, SN	
Safety	George Brooks, SN	
Vessel Exams	Don Coleman	360 333-2962
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	<b>Vacant</b>	
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	<b>Vacant</b>	
Property Officer	<b>Vacant</b>	
Supply Officers	Margaret & Anton Kerkove	360-588-4808
Telephone	<b>Vacant</b>	
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	Carolyn Caporgno	
Webmaster / IT	Kari Randall-Secrest, N	360-387-1194
Auditing Committee		
1 Yr. Chair	Judy Bennett, S	707-443-2855
2 Yrs.	Billie Ford	360 941-1956
3 Yrs.	Jack Dyer	
Nominating Committee		
1 Yr. Chair	Paul Rosetter, AP	360 595-1083
2 Yrs.	George Johnson, SN	360-588-8125
3 Yrs.	<b>Vacant</b>	
Rules Committee		
1 Yr. Chair	John Bellinger, SN	360-757-8091
2 Yrs.	Ruth Peterson, SN	360-293-1888
3 Yrs.	<b>Vacant</b>	

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. **Please insure the names shown are correct!**