

# THE BITTER END

## Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron

### December 2018

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



## CALENDAR

08 Dec- Boat Parade, LaConner Pub (In Lieu of Meeting)

25 Dec- Merry Christmas

01 Jan- Happy New Year — Be careful out there



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. HE is the reason for the season. Crabbing is still open through end of month.



### Commanders Message Cdr. John Bellinger, SN

Here it is December already and we are about to wind down another season. I want to thank everyone who helped SBSPS have another successful year. I have received great co-operation from our Executive Committee in all things pertaining to squadron business.

Debbie and Bob have been very busy putting on boating classes for our members and the public. Thanks to all of you who volunteered to help teach these classes.

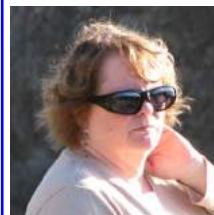
We have had some fine rendezvous both on the water and by land. Thank you to everyone who hosted these and to those who participated. We have had some very informative programs at our meetings thanks to Carolyn who seems to help out with everything we do.

Our Squadron had a great turnout to help with the District booth at the Seattle boat show which they greatly appreciated.

Donna and Paul have coordinated two public boating booths promoting the squadron and boating safety. We had a very successful ShipWreck Days spearheaded by George, Sandy and Marlene with a lot of help by many others.

I hope all of you had a great summer of boating and other fun activities while enjoying our fantastic weather.

I want to wish all of you a very happy holiday season and hope to see many of you at our Squadron Christmas party at the LaConner Pub on Saturday.



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

Our ABC class was a success! We have 23 students that all passed the exam. Thank you Wayne Williamson, Jack Dyer, John Bellinger and George Brooks and Bob Miller for teaching. Shani Taha also assisted and gave a great sales pitch on membership. Our next ABC class will start February 9. We are going to do the three Saturday approach again. It seemed to draw a lot more students.

In March or April we will teach the new Boat Handling course. Stay tuned for more information!

I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season.

Of interest to locals:

Mark and I were out on Wednesday, December 5, bringing our boat back from Anacortes and this buoy is right in the middle of the channel:

|       |  |         |               |       |
|-------|--|---------|---------------|-------|
| 19155 | Swinomish Channel North Entrance Buoy 30 | OFF STA | 18427 1010-18 | 49/18 |
|-------|--|---------|---------------|-------|

See next month for an entire list of Swinomish channel work.

**Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron  
United States Power Squadron  
General Meeting Minutes – Nov. 8, 2018**

Attendance

|                  |                   |                      |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Paul Rosetter    | Marlene Bellinger | Wayne Williams       |
| Donna Mason      | John Bellinger    | Molly Williams       |
| Glen Caporgno    | Debbie Richey     | Jack Dyer            |
| Carolyn Caporgno | Bob Miller        | Don Coleman          |
| Shani Taha       | Kelly Libby       | George Brooks        |
| Jeanne Brooks    | Steve Drummond    | Kari Randall-Secrest |
| *quorum present  |                   |                      |

Guest: Lynne Barre, NOAA (tonight's speaker)

Meeting called to order at 1834, location Farmhouse Restaurant  
Flag salute lead by Steve Drummond

Executive Officer's Report – Kelly Libby

- Liaison – Debbie Richey
  - Nothing new to report
- Marketing – Donna Mason
  - Possible fall promotion at West Marine in Anacortes.
  - Debbie suggested we might do something with W. Marine during safe boating week next year.
- Vessel Safety Checks – Don Coleman
  - Contact Don if interested in becoming a VSC.

Education Officer - Debbie Richey

- ABC Class update: 23 students in current ABC class, team teaching is working well with 6 instructors. Many thanks to Jack and Wayne for jumping in and teaching a few of the sessions. Our new tables are working well. Muffins and fruit platter, bagels and cream cheese provided and coffee. The 4-hour class sessions are also working out well.
- Assistant Ed. Officer - Bob Miller
  - Turnout for ABC is great, the Anacortes American ran our add 4 weeks in a row. 10 folks now on wait list so a second class will likely be offered in February after the boat show.
  - Bob will teach "Radar for Boaters" in March. 8-12 hour class in probably 3 - 4 sessions.
  - In April, if possible, we'll try to do the "Boat Handling" class (formerly Seamanship).
  - Bob will provide updates to Ed page of the website will push folks towards D16 website. No reason not to use it.
  - Check out the new D16 site - very new and improved.
  - Still working on a class for May ... Bob reported we're waiting for Marine Navigation to be ready by fall (formerly Piloting).
  - Bob will report more on the Radar course in January.
  - We still need instructors, so contact Debbie or Bob if interested.

Administrative Officer - Carolyn Caporgno

- Tonight's program: ca boating rules, Lynne Barre, NOAA, Marine Biologist/Seattle Branch Chief/Southern Resident Killer Whale Coordinator.
- Land-Based Activities – Donna Mason
  - Seattle trip to Nordic museum Sat. Nov. 10, 9 folks signed up.

- Holiday party confirmed at La Conner Pub, Sat. Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>. First 25 folks that sign up with Donna will get spaces.
  - The 2019 free parking day at state parks is Sat Sept 28th (keep in mind for cookout next year).
- Membership – Shani Taha
  - Shani will be contacting/providing squadron membership information to all of our current ABC class students.

#### Secretary - Kari Randall-Secretst

- Proposed change to October Ex. Com. meeting minutes:
  - Under Education Officer, the first bullet should read “ABC class is scheduled to be held over three sessions, Nov 3, Nov 17, and Dec 1 at Anacortes Marina. ...”
  - Bob Miller moved we accept October meeting minutes with approved change above, Don Coleman seconded, motion carried.
- Scrapbook – Carolyn Caporgno
  - Carolyn reported the scrapbook is here for your enjoyment tonight. Requested photos for the scrapbook be sent to her as a PDF file, please.
- Newsletter – Debbie Richey for Mark Richey
  - Send your articles for Bitter End to Mark by the first Thursday of the month. He’s always looking for any boating related article so send any you might have his way.
- Webmaster – Bob Miller will provide changes for the Education page on the website.

#### Treasurer – John Bellinger for Bob Miller

- Balance: \$9,138 (as of 10/31/18)
- Includes course fees coming soon.
- Bob reported our bank has been sold (Skagit Bank to Banner Bank). No big impacts to us.

#### Commander - John Bellinger

- Congrats to George and Jeanne Brooks on their 60th anniversary!
- Merit marks need to go to Debbie by this weekend, please.
- USPS Fall Conference report:
  - Location: Port Angeles
  - Much talk about marketing and our new name “America’s Boating Club”.
  - Also talked about coordinating more with state parks and boating safety (and Coast Guard also)... Coast Guard suggested we teach classes together (materials are the same). Could be an idea to consider.
  - Debbie announced Bob Miller was nominated for the Carl Mankin award! Well done Bob! This award recognizes teachers in the district and goes hand in hand with the Chapman award.

#### Old Business

- Donna reported we are still working on repairing the existing squadron canopy.
- Shani reported the new name tags reflect the America’s Boating Club name. If you want a new one, contact Shani.
- Ships Store: Carolyn reported classic squadron t-shirts are still available for \$10 each.

#### New Business

- None

Meeting adjourned at 1856 (motion by Shani Taha, seconded by Debbie Richey, motion carried).

## "On November 10, nine of us enjoyed a day trip to Ballard's new Nordic Museum

which included a special exhibit, "The Vikings Begin, Treasures from Uppsala University in Sweden."

Hosts Paul and Donna were joined by Mark and Debbie Richey, John and Marlene Bellinger, Shani Taha, and Mike and Sheryl Wytychak who now live on their boat in Seattle.



After, we enjoyed lunch at The Jolly Roger Pub. Some of us returned to the museum after lunch to continue our explorations."



Donna Mason

"Marlene added a Nordic-style dachshund pin to her collection."

To all interested parties....

Last evening, I received notification that there is a new flavor of AIS that will be interesting to pleasure craft operators.

Those of you who know me know I am not a fan of Class B AIS for pleasure craft. (I will remind you that I see Class B AIS as appropriate ONLY in 5 situations: 1) reduced visibility, 2) night operations, 3) offshore operations, 4) the inland rivers, and 5) boat not-under-command). While many disagree with me, my assessment and conclusion is informed by Class B technology limitations that I believe create a false sense of security in many - if not the majority - of pleasure craft operators. Review my article on this on my website for the whole story. Here is a link to that article: <https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fgilwellbear.wordpress.com%2Fcategory%2Fboat-technical-topics%2Fequipment-topics%2Fais%2F&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cf2f38f802d8e43b9381308d6560fb7b3%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C636791022833799442&sdata=bz35%2F1dvY7FQO224HC55jpHhECBka0UhQvQB15hKBEg%3D&reserved=0>.

Well, apparently the world-wide "powers that be" (International Marine Organization, USCG) agree with me, and there is now a new AIS communications standard called "Class B+." Note the "+" sign in "B+."

Here are the differences introduced by the new standard as I understand them today:

1. Class B unit radios are 2 Watts, Class B+ radios are 5 Watts; creates additional range.
2. Class B transmit interval is 30 seconds; Class B+ interval is 30 seconds up to 14 kts, then 15 seconds up to 23 kts, then 5 seconds above 23 kts. This will greatly enhance position accuracy for go-fast boats.
3. But by far the most important safety improvement is that the new Class B+ standard uses SOTDMA rather than CSTDMA to decide when to transmit. The CSTDMA technology DOES NOT ensure that a message will be sent in the clear; it's entirely possible for CSTDMA messages to be lost without the vessel operator knowing that. This obviously creates unreliable position accuracy and a false sense of security. The SOTDMA technology (which is used by Class A AIS) guarantees a time slot on the AIS VHF Data Link for clear message transmission. That is very important in crowded areas, like Mobile Harbor, Charleston Harbor, Norfolk Harbor or in areas with very heavy pleasure craft traffic, like Annapolis.

Today as far as I know, Sitex and Digital Yacht have Class B+ products available for sale. If you do not have AIS today, and might be considering adding AIS to your boat, I strongly recommend you consider these new Class B+ products in place of the existing Class B products. Class B+ is still not as good as Class A, but they are a very significant improvement over what we have today.

Jim





**Our annual Thanksgiving week RV centered activities**  
got interrupted by "extenuating circumstances". Creativity took over and we substituted the Conway Pub for Port Townsend on Friday, but we made it to the Prima Bistro in Langley on schedule Saturday.

At Conway were Debbie Richey, Glen and Carolyn Caporgno, George and Jeanne Brooks, John and Marlene Bellinger, George and Sandy Johnson, Donna Mason and Paul Rosetter.

At Langley were Glen and Carolyn Caporgno, George and Sandy Johnson and John and Marlene Bellinger.



## Education

Bob is receiving a certificate for his nomination for the Carl Mahnken award. Here is a description of the award:

V/C CARL C. MAHNKEN MEMORIAL TROPHY FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

Established in memory of Vice Commander Carl C. Mahnken, SN, National Executive Officer. Presented annually to the outstanding educator in D16. The recipient of this award is the district nominee for the National Chapman Award for Excellence in Teaching. The winner receives a miniature of the perpetual trophy. Certificates are presented to squadron nominees who were in the running for the Mahnken Award. Debbie Richey



# Planning next year's boating safety outreach just got easier

Washington state's 2019 Boating Safety Calendar is available now! This [calendar](#) is a helpful guide for communications and public outreach opportunities. It lists statewide and national [safety campaigns](#) and includes a month-by-month guide of boating safety topics and events.

Throughout 2019, we will provide you with resources that align with the themes outlined in the calendar. Resources may include digital graphics for social media, news release templates, fact sheets, event kits, banners, printed educational materials and one-on-one assistance for developing safety content or event planning.

To be added to the boating safety distribution network and receive ready-made content, contact Christina Fremont at 360-902-8837 or [christina.fremont@parks.wa.gov](mailto:christina.fremont@parks.wa.gov).

## **January 10, Thursday, Boating Rendezvous and Land-based Activities Planning Program at the Monthly Members Meeting.**

January is just around the corner. Start gathering your thoughts for the Member's Activities Planning Meeting.

Where would you like to rendezvous by boat? At a dock or on the hook or some of each? Quiet places or festivals with lots of activities? Tried and true places or new adventures? Each boating rendezvous will need to have a volunteer host when the event is scheduled.

## **Provide Feedback on Member Benefits**

Member benefits provided by America's Boating Club are significant and valued by many of us. We would like your feedback. Do you use your member benefits when making purchases, planning trips or looking for gift ideas? Do you know where to find the list of member benefits on our website? How often do you peruse the website to identify additions or changes? How important are your benefits when you consider the value of your membership and your membership renewal? Please visit the [Member Benefits website](#), review our 50-plus benefits and let me know which interest you. [Email me](#) with your answers to the questions above and a list of your top five benefit choices no later than Dec. 15, 2018. Your feedback is very important! I look forward to hearing from you. Email: [Andy Hyman](#)

## 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 December**

**Birthdays**



**Kelly Libby  
Debbie Richey**

### ~ 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.

## NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ALWAYS NEEDED

Articles are due no later than the week before the regular meeting at the Executive Board Meeting if it is held otherwise they are due no later than the Saturday before the regular meeting. Earlier is always better as it is hard to wait for last minute for everything. I try to send it out the Sunday before the meeting but would do it earlier if complete.

Please send them to the address at the top of the Bitter End. It is a clickable link and will open the address for you.

**Thanks,**

**P/D/C Mark Richey, SN  
Your Editor**

| Bridge Officers             |                        |              |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Commander                   | John R. Bellinger, SN  | 360-757-8091 |
| Executive Officer           | Kelly Libby, S         | 425-359-7078 |
| Education Officer           | Debbie Richey, AP      | 360-387-1260 |
| Administrative Officer      | Carolyn Caporgno       | 206-609-1182 |
| Secretary                   | Kari Randall-Secret, 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 |
|                             | Donna Mason, AP        | 360 595-1083 |
| Commander Department        |                        |              |
| Chaplain                    | Ruth Peterson, SN      | 360-293-1888 |
| Flag Lt.                    | Steve Drummond         |              |
| Port Captain                | Vacant                 |              |
| Law Officer                 | Vacant                 |              |
| Merit Marks                 | Debbie Richey, AP      | 360-387-1260 |
|                             | Vacant                 |              |
|                             | Vacant                 |              |
| Executive Department        |                        |              |
| Co-Op Charting              | Mark Richey, SN        | 425-876-6274 |
| Liaison                     | Debbie Richey, AP      | 360-387-1260 |
| Public Relations            | Kelly Libby, S         | 425-359-7078 |
| Asst Public Relations       | Vacant                 |              |
| Radio Technical             | George Brooks, SN      |              |
| Safety                      | George Brooks, SN      |              |
| Vessel Exams                | Bill Stewart           |              |
| Marketing                   | Don Coleman            | 360 333-2962 |
|                             | Donna Mason, AP        | 360 595-1083 |
| 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 |
| Rendezvous                  | Vacant                 |              |
| Greeting                    | Craig Ford             | 360 333-5308 |
|                             | Billie Ford            | 360 941-1956 |
| Membership                  | Shani Taha             |              |
| Operations Training         | Debbie Richey, AP      | 360-387-1260 |
| Programs                    | Carolyn Caporgno       | 206-609-1182 |
| Property Officer            | George Johnson, SN     | 360-588-8125 |
| Supply Officer              | Glen Caporgno          | 209-484-2365 |
| Secretary's Department      |                        |              |
| Editor "Bitter End"         | Mark Richey, SN        | 425-876-6274 |
| Historian                   | George Johnson, SN     | 360-588-8125 |
| Public Contact              | Debbie Richey, AP      | 360-387-1260 |
| Roster                      | Bob Miller, JN         | 360-588-9950 |
| Scrapbook                   | Carolyn Caporgno       | 206-609-1182 |
| Webmaster / IT              | Kari Randall-Secret, N | 360-387-1194 |
| Auditing Committee          |                        |              |
| 1 Yr. Chair                 | Vacant                 |              |
| 2 Yrs.                      | Jack Dyer              |              |
| 3 Yrs.                      | Marlene Bellinger      |              |
| Nominating Committee        |                        |              |
| 1 Yr. Chair                 | George Johnson, SN     | 360-588-8125 |
| 2 Yrs.                      | Donna Mason, AP        | 360 595-1083 |
| 3 Yrs.                      | Vacant                 |              |
| Rules Committee             |                        |              |
| 1 Yr. Chair                 | John Bellinger, SN     | 360-757-8091 |
| 2 Yrs.                      | Donna Mason, AP        |              |
| 3 Yrs.                      | Vacant                 |              |

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 don't show a phone number and want it to show, please let us know.**