

THE BITTER END

Summer 2023



For Boaters, By Boaters

Web Page: www.skagitsquadron.org

Email: ssboatschool@hotmail.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/SBSPS/



CALENDAR

7-12 July— Bell Harbor Rendezvous, Seattle

15 July—Shipwreck Fest, Anacortes

11-13 Aug— Deer Harbor Rendezvous

14-31 Aug — Continue from Deer Harbor to Desolation Sound



Don't forget to sign up for the Deer Harbor Rendezvous. Our Shipwreck Day booth needs items. See article in this issue. Tell your friends and neighbors about the Basic Boating Class we have coming up in September. It also gives them a chance at the class free if they want to join our group.



Commanders Message Mark Richey, SN-IN

Welcome to summer. Deb and I have already been out and about. We were boating on the canals of Amsterdam, The archipelago of Stockholm and the Thames in London. Not sure those

count but they were boating. We still have plans to lead you all along with us this summer so look at schedule.

Shipwreck Fest is coming up in Anacortes and we will have a large booth there as usual. This is a huge, multi block, flea mart that closes off downtown so come out and see us and have some fun.

We don't have meetings in the summer so we can do boating and other activities but will be back hard at it in September. Come join us on the water in the mean time.

Also, don't forget our ABC Class is coming up in Late Sep/Oct and everyone should hear about it so hang the flyer around.

If you haven't yet go out to the District Website <https://www.uspsd16.org/news-events> and look at the calendar. Other squadrons in area are doing fun things as well as classes and we are all welcome and encouraged to join. Its great getting to know members around the area.

See you out there and be safe!
Mark



Education Department Lt/C Adam Deitz

It's boating season! The Education Department wishes everyone an amazing time on the water.

In terms of updates, the spring ABC class is closed out. We had a total of four students in the class—all of whom passed with flying colors. We have another ABC class scheduled for September 30 and October 7, 2023. The class will again be held at the Burlington Haggen. A special "thank you" to all of our instructors and admin support folks for their help. We will start getting the word out about this class ASAP.

Further out on the horizon, George Brooks is looking into teaching the Marine Navigation Course (N1) later this year. We're still in the investigation/scheduling phase of this effort, but the class will most likely be in November-December, 2023 or January-February 2024. Let us know if you're interested in participating.



Squadron Activities

By P/C Donna Mason, AP

July 7-12 Seattle Bell Harbor Marina Rendezvous Join Mark and Debbie Richey for this rendezvous time during the Major League Baseball All Star Festivities. Contact Debbie if interested: drichey@rocketmail.com.

Have fun getting your boat ready for boating season, and I hope you don't have too many frustrating moments! Be safe out there!

July 15 Shipwreck Day in Anacortes Well it seems that George and Sandy Johnson are willing to tackle this challenge another year. Amazing! Help needed! Donate your good household and boating items to the sale. Volunteer to pick up donations from other people. Help at the Pricing Party, pick up tables and other supplies, set up the booth, there are lots of ways to help for our squadron's fundraising event of the year. End the day with a good group Mexican dinner right down the street.

August 11-13 Deer Harbor Rendezvous, Orcas Island Hosted by Mark and Debbie Richey. After helping out for Shipwreck Day, you'll deserve a relaxing weekend. Worth it just for the Lopez Island ice cream at the dock store. We'll enjoy a Saturday cookout on the dock.. **Register by clicking on button at Deer Harbor website and comment you are with Skagit Bay Squadron.**

August 14-31 Desolation Sound Cruise Hearty boaters may want to join Mark and Debbie as they sail up to and explore around Desolation Sound Canada. This is a plan-each-day-as-you-go cruise. Contact Mark and Debbie if you are interested.

September 1-4 Labor Day Weekend Cruise with Seattle and Everett Squadrons. Plans are in the works. See their squadron websites for details.

September 23 America's Boating Club of Skagit Bay Anniversary Cookout at Camano Island State Park. Hosted by the squadron Cdr. This is a free State Parks Day at a NEW VENUE for us. We'll enjoy being in the protected Lowell Point Kitchen Shelter with electricity, picnic tables, cold-water sink, wood stove and charcoal braziers for our potluck cookout, accommodations for 44 people.

October 13-15 Rosario Resort, Orcas Island Rendezvous Join Mark and Debbie Richey for usually reduced slip rates at this last boating rendezvous for 2023.

December 9 Lighted Boat Parade and Holiday Party at the LaConner Pub Hosted by Paul and Donna. If we want to be in the protected outside space, we need a larger group than last year. Enjoy dinner from the menu as you enjoy the colorful boat parade, followed by cake provided by the squadron. Opportunity to contribute to local "Neighbors In Need" Food Bank.

December 16-18 (Sat.-Mon.) Vancouver B.C. Canada Train, Holiday Lights and Carol Cruise Weekend Take the train to Vancouver on Saturday, ooh and aah as you explore through the amazing holiday Festival of Lights at the 55-acre Van Deusen Botanical Garden Saturday afternoon/evening, then on Sunday enjoy the Harbor Cruises Holiday Dinner and Caroling Cruise (only offered Wed., Thurs., or Sun.). Take the train home on Monday. Hosted by Paul and Donna.

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Hello Skagit Bay Members,

Do you have serviceable but unused items taking up space in your home, garage, boat or storage unit?

Here's a win-win opportunity: you can have more space without moving to a bigger place and your squadron can earn needed funds. The Shipwreck Day Booth is our only fundraiser. and this is reportedly our last year to have a booth.

After a few COVID years of low class offerings, we plan to rev up our ABC and advanced classes once again. Like you have experienced, our costs have risen for education, activities and operations. Your Executive Committee hammered out a tight budget for this year. Bottom line: we need to earn at least \$1,250 at Shipwreck Day July 15.

You can donate new or gently used household, sports, boating items in working condition. (We cannot take clothing.) We can meet you at the Mount Vernon storage unit or we can pick up items at your place. All items need to be received by July 7.

Take advantage of this opportunity. Call George and Sandy Johnson (360) 588-8125 to arrange transfer of your contributions.

Some people have asked about monetary donations to our squadron. This is easy: just send a check made out to "Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron" to our Treasurer Jack Dyer, 1317 9th St., Anacortes, WA 98221. Remember, we are a 501(c)3 non profit, and your donations are tax deductible if you itemize.

Thank you very much for considering our Skagit Bay Squadron!

P/C Donna Mason, AP
Executive Committee Member

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America's
Boating
Club of
Skagit Bay



USPS America's Boating Course

In-Person (Burlington Haggen Community Room)

Classes: Sept 30 (9am-1pm), Oct 7 (9am-1pm)

Exam Location Burlington Haggen: Oct 10, 6:30pm

The US Coast Guard-approved *America's Boating Course* provides you with basic boating knowledge to decide what type and size boat you need, what to do when meeting another boat in a crowded waterway, and how to recognize and handle hazards. Become a more competent boater, learn from the best, and enroll in *America's Boating Course* today. Many boat insurance companies will offer discounts on boating insurance to boaters who successfully complete *America's Boating Course*. And, this course provides a sound basis for continuing your recreational boating education.

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

- Types of boats and their uses,
- Boating laws, both Federal and State,
- Safety equipment, both required and recommended,
- Finding your way, and adverse conditions,
- Communications,
- Trailering, knots and lines,
- Water sports topics.

The course materials include a 280-page bound *Student Guide*. The course is completed by taking two, 4-hour sessions. The final exam is administered at the Burling Haggen after an interactive knot-tying workshop. Successful completion of the final exam allows students to apply for their **Washington State Boaters Card**, required for anyone born after Jan 1, 1955, and operating a vessel with a 15HP motor or greater.

\$40 for individuals or \$50 for two in same household sharing book

Contact Adam Deitz, adam@marinerlaw.com, cell: 203-536-6402



Registration closes Sept 20, 2023

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.®

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

Amazon has recently announced that it is ending the Amazon Smile charitable giving platform on February 20, 2023. The squadron will receive one more donation check from them and then no more. To those of you who supported the squadron through the Smile program, the bridge says "Thank you very much!".

~ 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.