

# THE BITTER END

December 2024



*For Boaters, By Boaters*

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A Division Of United States Power Squadrons™  
District 16

## CALENDAR



- 05 Dec — Executive Com Meeting, Haggen Burlington, 4PM
- 14 Dec— Holiday Meeting, Boat Parade, LaConner Pub, 5PM
- 21 Dec—Argosy Cruise, Christmas Carols Kirkland, See Schedule
- 25 Dec— Merry Christmas

Happy Holidays to all members. We hope to see you all next year and at our last events of this year. Don't get too carried away this New Year so they won't have to carry you away. Happy holidays whichever one you celebrate and remember who Christmas is in honor of. Happy Birthday Jesus.



### Commanders Message Mark Richey, SN-IN

Welcome to the last issue of 2024. It's been a fairly good year with ups and downs but a couple of the most fun events are yet to come. The Boat Parade and a caroling cruise. Let Donna know by this week if you are coming to our Boat Parade dinner at La-Conner Tavern.

Some of you may have heard that HQ had some issue with our group insurance. Well fear not! It has been taken care of and we have insurance for our events again starting now. We are still working our details for doing fundraisers but all our normal stuff is covered.

Let's all be safe out there and enjoy the season. The weather guessers say this is going to be much wetter and much colder than normal. That could mean nastiness. Right now it seems fairly mild at least here in Stanwood area and looks like that extends for next week or so. But let's see how it goes after that. White Christmas??

Have your activity ideas ready for Jan meeting and have a Happy Holiday Season.



### Administrative Officer Carolyn Caporgno, S

Glen and I are looking forward to joining you for our annual holiday celebration, where we will watch the La Conner Boat Parade and enjoy our friendships. I love this event!

I've had a busy November working at La Conner and Sedro Woolley Schools.

If you cannot attend our Christmas event, I wish you a joyous holiday season with family and friends. I look forward to seeing you at our event planning meeting for 2025 in January at Shaun O'Donnell's Farmhouse.

If you know someone interested in speaking on a boating topic, please do not hesitate to contact me at [carolyncaporgno@gmail.com](mailto:carolyncaporgno@gmail.com).



## Squadron Activities

By P/C Donna Mason, AP

This month concludes my 16-year run as your Squadron Activities Chair. I've enjoyed it, but now several family priorities need my attention. I urge you continue to offer suggestions for activities and support the new Activities Chair.

December 14 is our Squadron Holiday Party and LaConner Lighted Boat Parade at the La-Conner Pub, beginning at 5 p.m. We'll partake in revelry and order dinner from the menu. We'll enjoy squadron-provided chocolate cake for dessert. You can voluntarily contribute to local Neighbors-in-Need Food Bank. We recommend arriving in LaConner early to get a parking space and explore the shops or stroll along the river walkway. We have restaurant space for 24 people; reserve your space by December 4. So far we have 19 people signed up!

December 21 Argosy Christmas Caroling Ship from the Kirkland City Dock from 2-3:30 p.m. The Spirit of Seattle™, the Official Christmas Ship™, is decorated with hundreds of shimmering white lights and sails to different Puget Sound waterfront communities. The "Naughty and Nice" Choir on board will entertain us.

We'll meet at 11:00 a.m. at Cactus Southwest Kitchen and Bar Restaurant, 121 Park Lane in Kirkland, (<https://www.cactusrestaurants.com/menus>) for lunch prior to the cruise. The restaurant adds 20% gratuity to groups. The cruise leaves from Kirkland City Dock, boarding at 1:30 p.m. Order your tickets directly online at <https://www.argosycruises.com/argosy-cruises/christmas-ship-festival>. Specify "The Christmas Ship" Spirit of Seattle (not the follow boat) when ordering your tickets for the 2 p.m. departure. Posted prices: Adult 13-64 \$54, Senior \$50, Youth 4-12 \$40. There is no AAA discount, and they add processing fees.

Parking: Argosy recommends giving extra time if you plan to park in a downtown Kirkland lot or garage. Many options available, including the Peter Kirk Municipal Parking Garage (under the Kirkland Library), the Lakeshore Plaza lot, and City Hall (free nights and weekends). You can also visit the [City of Kirkland Parking Guide](#) or [Parkopedia](#) for additional Kirkland parking options.

So far we have 8 people signed up.

Happy Holidays to you all!



## Boating Books for Holiday Gifts

Are you tearing your hair out trying to find a gift for a boating relative or friend? Here are some suggestions to help you:

**Relative to Wind: On Sailing, Craft, and Community** by Phoebe Wang. A poetic rendering of her decade-long journey learning to sail, working with crew in tempestuous conditions and racing.

**River Songs: Moments of Wild Wonder in fly Fishing** by Steve Duda, a rock-and-roll fly fisher. His work in film, publishing and live appearances for over three decades provides thought-provoking collection of stories.

**Beyond the Wonder: an Ecologist's View of Wild Alaska** by Thomas Bancroft. An exploration of two of Alaska's national parks, with roaming bears, migrating sockeyes, and numerous birds.

**Playground** by Richard Powers. Pulitzer prize-winning author of *The overstory*, has a new novel set in the world's largest ocean and one of the last truly wild places on earth.

**If the Shoe Fits: The Adventures of the Reluctant Boat Frau** by Rae Ellen Lee (also available at Allied Arts Holiday Sale, 1131 Commercial St., Bellingham). The ups and downs of life aboard, taking risks and making changes.

**A History of the World in Twelve Shipwrecks** by David Gibbins. Renowned maritime archeologist ties together the stories of some of the most significant shipwrecks in time to form a single overarching narrative of world history.

**Three Sheets to the Wind: The Nautical Origins of Everyday Expressions** by Cynthia Barrett. An entertaining compilation revealing the maritime roots of common English expressions

For kids:

**My First 100 Pacific Northwest Words and My First 100 Pacific Northwest Animals**, from Little Bigfoot. Colorful board books for babies and toddlers.

**West Coast Baby Animals and West Coast Wild ABC** by Deborah Hodge. Gorgeous watercolor scenes introduce names and behaviors of wildlife and show beautiful coastal landscapes. For babies and toddlers.

**Narwhal's Sweet Tooth** by Ben Clanton. A hilarious story of how Narwhal's sweet tooth leads to funny feelings. For ages 6-9.

**The Pupfish Hero: Who Found Bravery and Buckets...and saved a species** by Elaine Miller Bond, now a Bellingham resident. A true story of a quick-thinking young scientist who saved a species of fish using two five-gallon buckets.

**Clive Penguin** by Huw Lewis-Jones. Clive the penguin looks to spice up his freezing cold iceberg life. For young readers.

**School of Fish** by Mary Boone. A fictional but science-based picture book to learn the stages of the salmon life cycle.

**The Millicent Quibb School of Etiquette for Young Ladies of Mad Science** by Saturday Night Live's Kate McKinnon. A madcap adventure about three sisters and a mysterious mad scientist hermit crab. For Middle Readers.

PHOTOS FROM VANCOUVER TRAIN TRIP



City Artwork in East Vancouver

Some Interesting artistic glasswork



Lunch with the Gang





Dinner Friday and Saturday



### America's Boating Club of Skagit Bay

#### General Meeting November 14, 2024

**Attendance:**

Mark Richey  
Debbie Richey

Jack Dyer  
Carolyn Caporgno  
Donna Mason

Paul Rosetter  
Sandy Johnson  
George Johnson

The meeting started at 1843 at Shawn O'Donnell's Farmhouse Restaurant

**Education** – No Report

**Admin** – November program had to cancel due to illness. Rescheduled for March. 6 people for the Vancouver trip. December boat parade at LaConner has openings. The Argosy cruise has openings and discount tickets.

**Secretary:** - October minutes were approved as written.

**Treasurer** - Jack Dyer reported bank account balance of as of October 3, 2024, \$xxxx

**Commander:** Mark Richey – Insurance difficulties with National. Our insurance for officers/directors liability was dropped by the current carrier.

**New Business** - A motion was made to increase first year dues by \$10 to cover the cost of the name tag.

Meeting adjourned 1857

Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron  
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes  
November 7, 2024

**Attendance:**

Carolyn Caporgno	George Johnson	Donna Mason	Paul Rosetter
Mark Richey	Jack Dyer	Debbie Richey	Sandy Johnson
Jerry			

Quorum present  
Meeting started: 1807

Officer's Reports

**Executive Officer**

Marketing – Nothing to report

**Education Officer – Adam Deitz (Not present)**

**Administrative Officer – Carolyn Caporgno**

**Programs –**

**Membership – Debbie Richey** – Donna Mason brought up the cost of name tags. An increase of \$10 was suggested to cover the cost of the name tags for new members. Current name tags cost \$12 each. A motion was made to increase **new member** dues by \$10 to cover the cost of name tags to take to the membership. The motion will be presented at the general meeting. Moved and seconded.

**Activities – Donna Mason** – The Christmas Market will be open in Vancouver during the weekend we will be there by Pacific Place. There are two couples going to Vancouver. The dates are 11/15 – 17. December 14 is the holiday party at La Conner Pub. Argosy Christmas ship from Kirkland on December 21 is a go. Tickets are available.

**Secretary – Debbie Richey** – No minutes to approve.

**Treasurer – Jack Dyer** – Balance as of October 31 is xxxx.

**Commander** – Jerry Liggett, Deception Pass (DP), joined us at our meeting. DP is having difficulties trying to get members to attend meetings. They do progressive training as their meeting programs. Their SEO has had to quit due illness in the family. They have no bridge except for Jerry as commander. He's trying to get members to become Vessel Safety Examiners. He would like to join resources with our squadron for our activities and classes.

Some options were discussed to improve both squadrons: 1. Merging both squadrons together. Combining squadrons would give us more people to pull from for bridge positions and committee chairs. 2. Work together on our social calendar. 3. Teach courses together. 4. Put meeting notices for each squadron in our newsletter. It was moved and seconded to provide information about each others meetings for their newsletters.

**Old Business –**

**New Business -**

Meeting adjourned 1910

Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron  
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes  
September 12, 2024

**Attendance:**

Carolyn Caporgno	George Johnson	Donna Mason	Paul Rosetter
Mark Richey	Jack Dyer	Bernard Robinson	Craig Ford
Jeannie Drummond	Sandy Johnson	Steve Drummond	Kelly Libby
Glen Caporgno	Debbie Richey	Lori Fox	

Quorum present

Meeting started: 1836

New member Lori Fox joined us. Long lost member Kelly Libby joined us.

Officer's Reports

**Executive Officer**

When information about the next boating class is known, Donna will put out some public announcements.

**Education Officer – Adam Deitz (Not present)**

Adam is busy this fall with his business. A spring class is a definite go.

**Administrative Officer – Carolyn Caporgno**

**Programs** – Carolyn is going through suggestions for speakers. There is a possibility of getting someone from Anacortes Museum to speak of the maritime history.

**Membership – Debbie Richey** – No new members

**Activities – Donna Mason** – Train trip in November, possible Vancouver? Possibility of staying at Sylvia Hotel near English Bay. There will be a District 16 fall cruise possible dates are October 1-14.

**Ships Store** – We have a small burgee and a large burgee available to purchase. We also have a Whale Wise flags. You fly the Whale Wise flag when you see a whale.

**Secretary – Debbie Richey** – May minutes approved.

**Treasurer – Jack Dyer** – Balance as of August 31 is \$xxxxx

**Commander** – Mark and Deb will be on vacation during October. Executive meeting for October has been cancelled.

**Old Business** –

**New Business** -

Meeting adjourned 1858

Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron  
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes  
September 5, 2024

**Attendance:**

Carolyn Caporgno	George Johnson	Donna Mason
Mark Richey	Jack Dyer	Sandy's Johnson
Glen Caporgno	Debbie Richey	

Quorum present

Meeting started: 1809

Officer's Reports

**Executive Officer**

Marketing – Went over the marketing efforts for the last class.

**Education Officer – Adam Deitz (Not present)**

No Report – Mark will contact Adam to determine feasibility of a fall class.

**Administrative Officer – Carolyn Caporgno**

**Programs** – September – Paul and Donna's Great Australian Adventure. Carolyn is working on working on scheduling programs.

**Membership – Debbie Richey** – No new members

**Activities – Donna Mason** – September, Cornet Bay Picnic, November Train Trip, Vancouver?

**Secretary – Debbie Richey** – May minutes approved. Donna volunteered to take minutes for the October meeting. Carolyn will put together a Word document for the Bitter End and Mark will mail it from his iPad.

**Treasurer – Jack Dyer** – Balance as of August 31 is \$xxxxx

**Commander** – Mark and Deb will be on vacation September 16-October 23. October ExCom has been canceled.

**Old Business –**

**New Business** - Time for next ExCom is 3 pm starting November 7, at Haggen in Burlington. Operations Manual is on the old national website.

Meeting adjourned 1850



## 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](https://www.cleverkathydesigns.com/store/c1/Featured_Products.html)

We are always looking for boating related articles from any member. Photos too. If you think it would be of interest to the Squadron, send it. The editor will insert as space and subject provides. Note that the green box on the first page is quick editorial comments and attention getting items .

### ~ 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.

<b>Bridge Officers</b>		
Commander	Mark Richey, SN-IN	425-876-6274
Executive Officer	Adam Deitz	203-536-6402
Education Officer	Carolyn Caporgno, S	209-609-1182
Administrative Officer	Debbie Richey, AP	425-750-9551
Secretary	Jack Dyer, AP	425-785-7782
Treasurer		
<b>Executive Committee</b>		
	Donna Mason, AP	360-595-1083
	Sandy Johnson, P	360-588-8125
	George Johnson, SN	360-588-8125
<b>Commander Department</b>		
Chaplain	Ruth Peterson, SN	360-293-1888
Flag Lt.	Glen Caporgno, S	
Port Captain		
Law Officer		
Merit Marks	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
<b>Executive Department</b>		
Co-Op Charting	Mark Richey, SN-IN	425-876-6274
Liaison	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Marketing	Donna Mason, AP	360 595-1083
Public Relations	Various members split	
Radio Technical		
Safety	Don Coleman	360 333-2962
Vessel Exams	Vacant	
<b>Education Department</b>		
Assistant Education Officer	Vacant	
Local Board Public Boating	George Johnson, SN	360-588-8125
Local Board Advanced Grds		
Local Board Elect Courses		
<b>Administrative Department</b>		
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	Carolyn Caporgno, S	
Property Officer	George Johnson, SN	360-588-8125
Supply Officer	Glen Caporgno, S	209-484-2365
<b>Secretary's Department</b>		
Editor "Bitter End"	Mark Richey, SN-IN	425-876-6274
Historian	George Johnson, SN	360-588-8125
Public Contact	Vacant	
Roster	Debbie Richey, AP	
Scrapbook	Carolyn Caporgno, S	209-609-1182
Webmaster / IT	Kari Randall-Secrest, N	360-387-1194
<b>Auditing Committee</b>		
	Sandy Johnson, P	
	Jeannie Drummond	
<b>Nominating Committee</b>		
	Debbie Richey, AP	
	George Johnson, SN	
<b>Rules Committee</b>		
	George Johnson, SN	
	Donna Mason, AP	

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.**