

# THE BITTER END

April 2026



*For Boaters, By Boaters*

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

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



A Division Of United States Power Squadrons™  
District 16

## CALENDAR



- 05 Apr— Happy Easter
- 09 Apr— Executive Meeting, Farmhouse, 5:30 PM
- 09 Apr— Regular Meeting, Change of Watch, Farmhouse
- 17-19 Apr— Langley Cruise & Lunch at Prima Bistro, Noon Sat



**This meeting is our our change of watch where we swear in this years officers. They haven't changed at all but it is traditional. A representative from the district will be present for this. Come meet them. We are also considering a June/ July time frame ABC class. We already have possibly a dozen interested.**



### Commanders Message Debbie Richey, P

Another bridge year has come and gone. I can't believe it has been a year already. I would like to thank all the folks that have stepped up to help out. This squadron can't operate without the help.

We are looking at the possibility of teaching classes in a hybrid format. That would be in classroom and over zoom. I know some folks like in person classes and I really don't see those going away. But at the same time we need to meet people where they're at. Maybe like some the classes I take via YouTube, we could record it so folks can access the class anytime.

The dinner at Downriggers was really enjoyable. The weather cooperated for us and the sunset was gorgeous. There are pictures in the pages of the newsletter.

The trip to Burroughs Island to visit the lighthouse is May 16 from 3 pm to 5:30 pm. We will eat dinner at El Jinete in Anacortes. We will catch the boat at Skyline Marina. Please see the flyer in the newsletter. If you plan on going, please make your reservation as soon as you can. The lighthouse is looking for numbers of people so they can make sure they have enough docents on hand for us.

Our exec board meetings are now being before the general meeting at 5:30 pm. Any member can join us.

Have a great April and enjoy the tulips!

**Some of our members are going to do these events this year and invite you to join them. Details of the invitations will be sent out as they get closer. Feel free to ask for details via email before if you wish.**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Destination</b>	<b>Host</b>	<b>Theme</b>
January 30-February 7	Seattle Boat Show		What's new in boating?
March 6-7	D16 Spring Conference	Everett	
March 27-29	Friday Harbor, San Juan Island, boat or ferry	Mark & Debbie Richey	Spring on the Island
April 17-19	Langley, Whidbey Island Boat or Car Day Trip	Johnsons and Caporgnos	Village by the Sea, Lunch together on Saturday
May 16	Burrows Island Light House Tour	Caporgnos and Johnsons	Lighthouse History, Dinner or late lunch together
June 5-7	D16 Rendezvous, Port Ludlow	D16 Cdr. _____	
June 11	Shelter Bay Squadron Picnic June Meeting	Dan and Elizabeth Niven	1 <sup>st</sup> picnic this year
June 12-26	Gulf Islands	Mark & Debbie Richey	
July 10-12	Roche Harbor, San Juan Island Boat or Car Ferry		San Juan Island Sculpture Park and Nature Reserve
August 21-23	Deer Harbor, San Juan Island, boat or ferry		
September 26	Anniversary Cookout, Cornet Bay, Whidbey Island		Saturday Free Day Picnic
October 23-25	Port Townsend, boat or ferry	TBD	Architecture/Arts/Maritime Culture, Dinner Saturday night
November 13-15	Leavenworth by train or bus		Bavarian-themed village, alpine architecture, German food
December 12	La Conner Boat Parade & Holiday Party		Holiday celebration



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*Figure 1 Burrows Island Lighthouse (Washington, 1906)*

The Burrows Island Lighthouse, first lit in 1906, is a historic beacon located on Burrows Island, guiding mariners through Rosario Strait and undergoing restoration efforts to preserve its legacy.

**Event:** Burrows Island Light House Tour

**Date:** Saturday, May 16, 2026

**Time:** Leaves at 3 p.m. and returns at 5:30 pm.

Island Express water taxi. **Call 360-299-2875 for reservations.** \$45/person round trip (1/2 proceeds go to the Northwest Schooner Society supporter of restoration)

Dinner: El Jinete Mexican Restaurant, 509 Commercial Avenue, Anacortes

**Please R.S.V.P. Carolyn & Glen Caporgno for dinner reservations at [carolyncaporgno@gmail.com](mailto:carolyncaporgno@gmail.com)**

## May 14 Speaker: Wayne Watne, Senior Fish Habitat Biologist

Wayne grew up in a logging and commercial fishing family that migrated annually to the Washington coast for the commercial salmon season. As a child, he passed between boats in a dip-net to see what was in the lunchbox of the other fishermen in the fleet. He was so young that he couldn't remember his first salmon. Wayne recalls his first "keeper", a 23-pound king caught on a red and white wooden salmon plug...this was his "rite-of-passage" that allowed him to be a commercial salmon fisherman on his grandpa's boat at the age of 6. Wayne has always been around logging and salmon...when not in fish camp, he could help his grandpa run the lathe at Puget Sound Plywood. His life has been involved in every aspect of salmon, from sport fishing, guiding, and commercial fishing along the west coast to working at salmon hatcheries and salmon farms, and finally as a fisheries biologist. Wayne is a salmon historian who, while in high school, helped write a book about the history of PNW salmon fishing and runs a small salmon history museum. He now teaches about salmon where opportunities allow and serves on the Board of Directors for Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group.

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## Langley, Village by the Sea, Boat or Car Day Trip

April 17-19, 2026

Join the Johnsons and Caporgnos for a visit to Langley. Come early or after lunch, stroll along First Street and beyond to discover charming boutiques, art galleries, and specialty shops. There is a great bookstore and a whale center as well. **Lunch will be on Saturday at Noon at Prima Bistro, 201 ½ 1st Street.**

If you are coming by boat, contact <https://www.portofsouthwhidbey.com> to make reservations.

Email [carolyncaporgno@gmail.com](mailto:carolyncaporgno@gmail.com) for reservations at Prima Bistro.

Prima Bistro Happy Hour menu: <https://www.primabistro.com>

## The Gang at Friday Harbor:



**Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron**

**Executive Committee and**

**General Meeting Combined Minutes**

**March 12, 2026**

**Attendance:**

Mark Richey	George Johnson	Glen Caporgno
Debbie Richey	Sandy Johnson	Carolyn Caporgno
Jack Dyer	John Woodard	

**Meeting called to order at 5:40 pm.**

**Executive Officer – Mark Richey**

No response to date from Deception Pass regarding teaching ABC together.

The Old Anacortes Rowing and Sailing Society (OARS) has asked us to teach an ABC course for them. Needs further discussion. They have 10-15 students if we give the class. We expect it to be two 4 hour sessions. Seeking a venue and Anacortes Marina will be asked for their upstairs meeting room where we have given many classes up to 5 years ago.

**Administrative Officer – (Commander)**

Activities – Mark and Debbie on March 29 will attend a class on how to present a zoom class.

We still can't host social events because we still have no insurance for such.

Upcoming events:

March 27-29 Friday Harbor. Richeys are hosts.

April 17-19 Langley Prima Bistro, Caporgnos and Johnsons hosts.

May 16 Burrows Lighthouse tour. Carolyn Caporgno will make ferry reservation for all who contact her.

**Treasurer – Jack Dyer**

Bank balance reported.

Mark Richey repeats that we expect to get refurbished crab pots from DFW again.

**Commander - Debbie Richey**

Debbie and Mark Richey gave a brief report on D/16 Spring Conference and Change of Watch.

National meeting was February 17. Debbie attended by zoom and voted “NO”

on the proposed dues increase. Result of audit of National’s books has not been provided to squadrons.

**Old Business –**

Nominating Committee Report presented and corrected to delete Jeanne Drummond from Audit Committee. Nominations received unanimous approval.

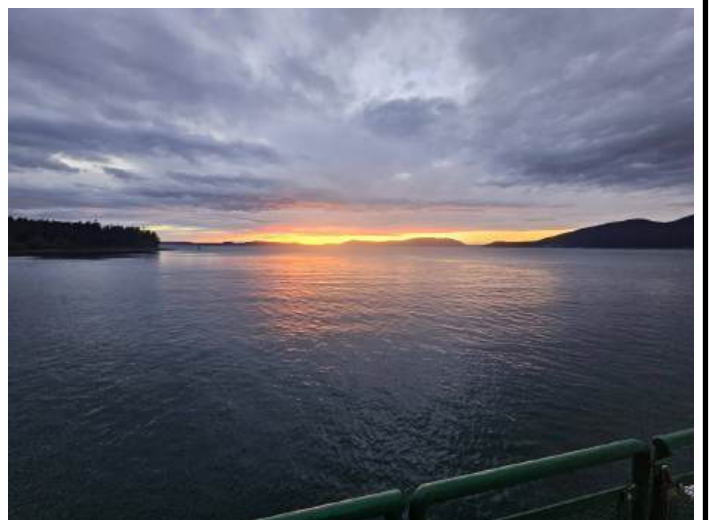
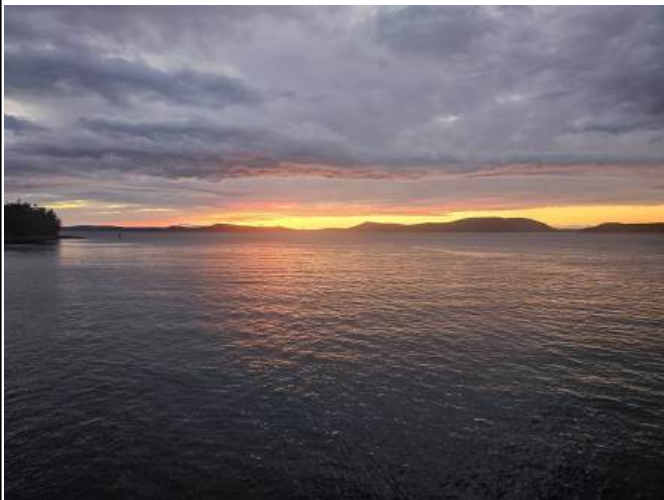
**New Business –**

**None**

**Meeting adjourned 6:11 pm**

**Debbie Richey showed an excellent training video “Marinas of the San Juan Islands”, which was made by Ann Einboden, Education Officer of Friday Harbor Squadron.**

Sunset Photos from Friday Harbor Trip taken from Aancortes Ferry



## 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.



Bridge Officers		
Commander	Debbie Richey, AP	425-750-9551
Executive Officer	Mark Richey, SN-IN	425-876-6274
Education Officer	Adam Deitz	203-536-6402
Administrative Officer	-	-
Secretary	George Johnson, SN	360-588-8125
Treasurer	Jack Dyer, AP	425-785-7782
Executive Committee		
	Donna Mason, AP	360-595-1083
	Sandy Johnson, P	360-588-8125
	Carolyn Caporgno, S	
Commander Department		
Chaplain	Ruth Peterson, SN	360-293-1888
Flag Lt.	Glen Caporgno, S	
Port Captain		
Law Officer		
Merit Marks	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Executive Department		
Co-Op Charting	Mark Richey, SN-IN	425-876-6274
Liaison	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Marketing		
Public Relations	Various members split	
Radio Technical		
Safety	Don Coleman	360 333-2962
Vessel Exams	Vacant	
Education Department		
Assistant Education Officer	Mark Richey, SN-IN	
Local Board Public Boating	George Johnson, SN	360-588-8125
Local Board Advanced Grds		
Local Board Elect Courses		
Administrative Department		
Boating Activities		
Rendezvous		
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
Secretary's Department		
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
Auditing Committee		
	Sandy Johnson, P	
	Jeannie Drummond	
Nominating Committee		
	George Johnson, SN	
Rules Committee		
	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.**