

THE BITTER END

January 2026



For Boaters, By Boaters

Web Page: www.skagitsquadron.org

Email: ssboatschool@hotmail.com

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



A Division Of United States Power Squadrons™
District 16

**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR!!**

CALENDAR

08 Jan— Excom Meeting, Farmhouse, 5:30PM

08 Jan— Regular Meeting, Farmhouse, 6PM, Activities Schedule



If you want to have input into any of the social and boating destinations we have this year, or any planned adventures, please come to the next meeting with you charts, maps and travel books. We would love to get everyone involved, especially if you have kids or grandkids that have fun places to go.



Commanders Message Debbie Richey, P

Happy New Year!!! Remember writing checks? How many times did you write the wrong year down in the new year? I know I did many times.

We have changed our board meetings to 1/2 hour before the general meeting. All members are welcome to join us.

This months meeting will be planning our activities for the year. As you know, we participate in all activities, and you don't need a boat for many of them. Please bring all your ideas to the January meeting. We are looking for some fresh ideas. Some suggestions are the Klondike Museum in Pioneer Square (it's a national park), the Spark Museum in Bellingham, a weekend at Deer Harbor. You get the idea. Something new and exciting!

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the meeting!



Activities Carolyn Caporgno

Come all ye faithful boaters and land lovers! Join us at our regular meeting on January 8 to plan our 2026 adventures.

If you liked what we did last year, why not add something new? Reservations need to be made early for many locations, so this planning meeting is vital to our 2026 Activities Schedule. Whether it's a boating adventure, a land adventure, or a combination, bring those ideas and let's talk about some good times! Looking forward to seeing you for dinner.

Carolyn Caporgno

The Gang at our Christmas get together at LaConner Pub



**Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
December 4, 2025**

Attendance:

Mark Richey
Debbie Richey
Donna Mason

George Johnson
Sandy Johnson
Jack Dyer

Paul Rosetter
Carolyn Caporgno

Meeting called to order at 4:00 pm. Minutes of last meeting approved.

Executive Officer – Mark Richey

Nothing to report

Administrative Officer – (Commander)

Activities –

Dec 13 La Conner Christmas Boat Parade party

Programs – No further speaker will be planned until we know squadron status.

Education Officer – Adam Dietz

Agreed we want to teach ABC at least once per year, possibly teamed with Deception Pass. Richeys have two grandchildren for next class.

Mark Richey will contact Deception Pass to discuss coop advertising.

Secretary - George Johnson

November meeting minutes approved.

Treasurer – Jack Dyer

Bank balance reported.

Tax return filed and accepted.

2022 still “pending” in IRS site. Jack is in a dialogue with IRS regarding this.

Mark Richey reports that we can get refurbished crab pots from DFW again. This was the primary fundraiser for the squadron this year, replacing Shipwreck Day (thankfully).

Commander - Debbie Richey

There was not a quorum available for the Governing Board meeting Dec 2. Henceforth squadrons will have one delegate per fifty members instead of one per 100 members.

A zoom meeting with National and approximately 150 squadrons was strained and unproductive.

There is a new Bylaws model for use by squadrons.

Old Business –

None

New Business –

Beginning in January the General Membership and Executive Committee Meetings will be held on the same night.

The ExComm will start at 5:30 pm, followed by the General Membership meeting at 6:00.

Donna Mason will assist Debbie and Mark Richey with preparation of an application for an advertising grant from National.

Meeting adjourned 4:35 pm.

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

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.