

THE BITTER END

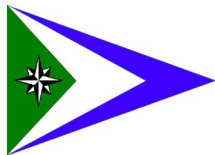
News from Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron

January 2014

A Unit of United States Power Squadrons ® District 16

Web Page: www.usps.org/localusps/skagit

Email: ssboatschool@hotmail.com



HAPPY NEW YEAR

9 January—Regular Meeting , Farmhouse, Plan our rendezvous
24 January—1 February—Big Seattle Boat Show, Quest Field Event Center



Commander's Message **Kelly Libby, S**

Happy New Year 2014!

Hope that you all had a great holiday season and are ready to tackle a fresh new year; one that involves boating!

Our next dinner meeting is coming up quickly...**January 9th**. This is one of my favorite yearly meetings - rendezvous planning for the coming year! Donna and Paul are the experts on this topic and we've had many successful rendezvous to their credit over the past few years! Bring your calendars and ideas!

Thank you to Donna and Paul again, for coordinating the Squadron Christmas Dinner with the La Conner Boat Parade... food, drinks and boats, what else could you ask for??!! **Thank you to Bill and Lynn** who organized a raffle collecting \$175 from our group. Our Squadron voted to match the funds and Lynn got to deliver **\$350 to Skagit Valley Neighbors in Need. Yeah!**

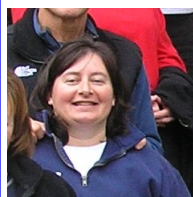
Thank you to Bob Miller who just wrapped up an alpha test class on Electronic Navigation in December.
Thank you to Paul Rosetter and George Johnson for assisting Bob!

What would January in Seattle be without the Big Seattle Boat Show? The dates are January 24th through February 2nd. You've no doubt received Kari's emails to volunteer if you wish. Please talk to her if you have any questions or have a date in mind to meet and greet people at the Show! **Thank you Kari for being the Skagit Bay S&PS Boat Show Coordinator!**

Merit Marks on their way to your mailboxes! Thank you for all your contributions over the past year. **Thank you Debbie Richey** for submitting the information to National to make this happen, a tedious job!

I've said this before but I'll say it again...Make it your **New Year's Resolution** to come and join the fun with our group! If you have not made it to one of our dinner meetings, a program or a rendezvous, you really are missing out on one of the best perks of being a **Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron Member**.

Hope to see you Thursday, January 9th!

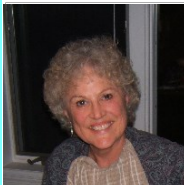


Executive Department **Kari Randall-Secret, N**

Welcome 2014! Here is hoping you had a wonderful holiday season and it sure seemed that the members who attended our holiday party in La Conner sure did! Thanks so much to all who planned and participated in that fun event.

Another new year begins with our January meeting being held at The Farmhouse Restaurant on Thursday, January 9th at 6:00 pm. This January meeting is always a fun one since we are planning our rendezvous calendar for the coming year. Don't miss out on some good food and equally good times!

Been thinking about your New Year's resolution? For me, it will be to get out and do more of two activities I dearly love ... boating and backpacking. So here's to a short winter and a long boating season! It's been said that no one can go back and make a totally new start, but anyone can start today and make a brand new ending. What will your new ending be?



Boating Activities By P/C Donna Mason, AP

Happy New Year!

Let's resolve to plan lots of squadron boating activities in 2014!

Join us at our Boating Activities Planning Meeting, the program for the January 9 Squadron Members Meeting at the Farmhouse Restaurant. Once we've all agreed on a plan, marina slips can be reserved, this year's squadron shirts will be available to order, and you can update your calendars.

Bring your suggestions for weekend rendezvous and other boating activities. Where is your favorite weekend rendezvous spot? Do you prefer marinas with hook-ups or remote settings? Are you first timers? Are you seasoned boaters ready to try a new location? Can you do day-trips only? Do you want to know what's involved being a host? Tell us your thoughts, ideas, and preferences.

We'll have guide sheets, tide tables and marine charts to help in planning. I have some firm dates for festivals we've enjoyed in the past. By the end of the meeting, we'll have a plan for the 2014 boating season!

Looking forward to seeing you there!

A big "Thank You" goes to Lynn and Bill Stewart who provided the raffle prizes for our Holiday Party.



Skagit Bay Sail & Power Squadron

Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2013

Meeting Location: Farmhouse Restaurant

Start Time: 1840

Attendance:

George Johnson	Sandy Johnson	Rick Anderson
George Brooks	Jeanne Brooks	Kari Secrest
Mark Richey	Debbie Richey	Kelly Libby
Dale Libby	Matt Libby	John Bellinger
Marlene Bellinger	Albert Miller	Ruth Peterson
Elisabeth Libby	William Lundstrom	Sharon Knowles

Commander Libby introduced our guest speaker for the evening, Matt Libby.

Flag Salute led by Albert Miller.

Invocation by Ruth Peterson.

Treasurer's Report by Marlene Bellinger:

\$3173.64 balance 10/31/13.

Statement of 10/31/13 delivered to Secretary.

Secretary's (Commander's favorite) Report: Nothing to report.

Administrative Officer's Report by Mark Richey:

Mark requests articles for an early Winter edition of the Bitter End.

The squadron will meet at "The La Conner Pub and Eatery" in La Conner to watch the boat parade and have an informal dinner meeting on December 7. The fun starts at 1700.

Fall Conference was attended by Debbie and Mark, and the following was gleaned;

nwboatertaining.com has a spreadsheet that takes data from USPS and other groups and publishes a list of public courses.

All squadrons are requested to start and maintain a Facebook page. Mark volunteered for the duty.

USPS will offer 6-pack and 100 ton licenses online. These result in USCG licenses. Prices will be "in the thousands". It was noted that a local 6-pack license class costs \$1500.

Dues will be increased slightly next year. Shocker.

The D/16 annual meeting for new officers will be March 1.

Executive Officer's Report by Kari Secrest:

Our annual Non-profit report was prepared and delivered to the appropriate authorities with the routine perfection to which we have become accustomed.

Education Department Report by several:

ABC still has 2 to take exam. All others passed.

Bob Miller is ready to present the Electronic Navigation course in December and January.

George Brooks updated us on his and Jeanne's travels and other activities since his recent retirement from SEO position.

Commander's Report by Kelly Libby:

Please forward Merit Mark reports to Debbie ASAP. These marks are given as a bonus to our salary and benefits package.

Anacortes will have a "Christmas on the Docks" party December 20 thru 22 at Cap Sante Marina. Free moorage is provided. Toy and food donations are requested.

Formal meeting adjourned at 1910.

Matt Libby presented a wonderful slide-show and discussion of his recent Zambia trip. He went there with several other students as an educational activity. He'll be going back!

Skagit Bay Sail & Power Squadron

Meeting Minutes

December 7, 2013

Meeting Location: La Conner Pub and Eatery

Start Time: 1700

Attendance:

George Johnson	Sandy Johnson	Mark Richey	Debbie Richey
George Brooks	Jeanne Brooks	Bill Stewart	Lynn Stewart
Kelly Libby	Dale Libby	Michael Libby	Rachael Libby
Marshall Libby (baby!)	Elisabeth Libby	Kelsey, Elisabeth's guest	Bob Miller
Jean Miller	Donna Mason	Paul Rosetter	Kari Secrest
Deanna Randall	Sue Sanders	Larry Sanders	Albert Miller
Sharon Knowles	John Bellinger	Marlene Bellinger	Santa Claus & Rudolph

This is our annual Christmas Boat Parade party. No formal business is conducted. We had no squadron boats entered this year. (We always won the Commander's Trophy when we entered).

Cocktails and gathering began at 1700. Noise level increased as more refreshments were served and consumed. Boring tea-totallers had fun too, just watching and listening.

The boat parade began at approximately 1800, with temperatures in the mid-twenties. Brrrrrrr.

Dinner serving began at approximately 1800. Special was prime-rib. Excellent, by all reports.

Commander Libby presented in letter form an award to George Brooks for his many years of outstanding service in the Education Department and for his general leadership of the squadron. It especially noted the inspiration he has given to so many of us as boaters and friends.

A beautifully decorated CHOCOLATE CAKE, with a big "Thank You George" written on the top, was enjoyed by all. Another great party for a group that knows how to have fun together.

(Hey, was that Clark and Joan Scarboro sitting at a nearby table? Geez, nobody said a peep.)
Party adjourned at approximately 2030.



Education Department **Paul Rosetter, AP**

The next America's Boating Course presented by the SBSPS is planned for April 7 through April 23, Monday and Wednesday evenings, 7 to 9 p.m., at Anacortes Marina. Please inform your friends who are interested in boating of this learning opportunity.

Flotsam and Jetsam

Want to know where the way you speak comes from? Take this test. (Thanks to Bob Miller for pointing out this test)

About This Quiz

Most of the questions used in this quiz are based on those in the Harvard Dialect Survey, a linguistics project begun in 2002 by Bert Vaux and Scott Golder. The original questions and results for that survey can be found on Dr. Vaux's current website.


The data for the quiz and maps shown here come from over 350,000 survey responses collected from August to October 2013 by Josh Katz, a graphics editor for the New York Times who developed this quiz. The colors on the large heat map correspond to the probability that a randomly selected person in that location would respond to a randomly selected survey question the same way that you did. The three smaller maps show which answer most contributed to those cities being named the most (or least) similar to you.

[Click here to take quiz.](#)

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 JANUARY
BIRTHDAYS**



**Laurel Cochran
Greg Denman
Jean Miller
William Monteforte
Kari Randall-Secrest
Cliff Williams
Todd Woodard**

~ 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.

Course Passed	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
ABC	42	20	29	15	24
Seamanship		8	2		10
Piloting		4	1		
Advanced Piloting	3	3			
Junior Navigation	8			1	
Navigation		9			
Cruise Planning					
Instructor Development (Certified Instructors)					
Engine Maintenance			8		
Marine Electronics	9				
Marine Communications					7
Marine Electrical Syst					
Weather					
Sail					
Operations Training	3	2			

Bridge Officers		
Commander	Kelly Libby, S	360-435-3835
Executive Officer	Kari Randall-Secrest, N	360-387-1194
Education Officer	Vacant	
Administrative Officer	Mark Richey, SN	360-387-1260
Secretary	George Johnson, SN	360-588-8125
Treasurer	Marlene Bellinger, AP	360-757-8091
Executive Committee		
	Bob Miller, JN	360-588-9950
	Lynn Stewart, P	360-424-1270
	Sandy Johnson, P	360-588-8125
	Vacant	
Commander Department		
Chaplain	Ruth Peterson, SN	360-293-1888
Flag Lt.	Albert Miller, P	360-391-1897
Port Captain	Vacant	
Law Officer	Vacant	
Merit Marks	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
	Jean Miller, N	360-588-9950
	John Bellinger, SN	360-757-8091
Executive Department		
Co-Op Charting	Lynn Stewart, P	360-424-1270
Liaison	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Public Relations	Deanna Randall-Secrest, N	360-387-1194
Asst Public Relations	Albert Miller	360-466-3470
Radio Technical	George Brooks, SN	360-391-1897
Safety	Bill Stewart, JN	360-424-1270
Vessel Exams	Rick Anderson, SN	360-757-6241
Education Department		
Assistant Education Officer	Paul Rosetter, AP	360-595-1083
Local Board Public Boating	George Johnson, SN	360-588-8125
Local Board Advanced	Rick Anderson, SN	360-757-6241
Grades	John Bellinger, SN	360-757-8091
Local Board Elect Courses		
Administrative Department		
Boating Activities	Donna Mason, AP	360-595-1083
Galley	Sandy Evans	360-305-8330
Greeting	Sandy Evans	360-305-8330
	Dale Libby, P	360-435-3835
Membership	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Operations Training	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Programs	Mark Richey, SN	360-387-1260
Property Officer	Mark Richey, SN	360-387-1260
Supply Officer	Mark Richey, SN	360-387-1260
Telephone	Mark Richey, SN	360-387-1260
	Sandy Evans	360-305-8330
	Bill Stewart, JN	360-424-1270
Secretary's Department		
Editor "Bitter End"	Mark Richey, SN	360-435-3835
Historian	Lynn Stewart, P	360-424-1270
Roster	Bob Miller, JN	360-588-9950
Scrapbook	Coco Haynes, S	360-293-0592
Webmaster	Kari Secrest, N	360-387-1194
Auditing Committee		
1 Yr Chair	Sandy Johnson, P	360-588-8125
2 Yrs.	Dale Libby, P	360-435-3835
3 Yrs.	Sharon Knowles, AP	
Nominating Committee		
1 Yr. Chair	Jean Miller, N	360-588-9950
2 Yrs.	Deanna Randall, N	360-387-1194
3 Yrs.	George Brooks, SN	360-466-3470
Rules Committee		
1 Yr. Chair	Ruth Peterson, SN	360-293-1888
2 Yrs.	Bill Stewart, JN	360-424-1270
3 Yrs.	John Bellinger, SN	360-757-8091