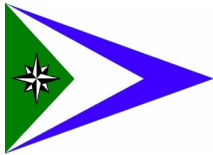


THE BITTER END

News from Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron Summer 2014



A Unit of United States Power Squadrons ® District 16

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

Email: ssboatschool@hotmail.com



CALENDAR

3-6 July, Independence Day Rendezvous, Squalicum Harbor
19 July, Shipwreck Days Anacortes, Our big fundraiser
15-24 August, Deer Harbor Cruise then on to Gulf Islands
(See details in February issue of this newsletter)



Commander's Message **Kari Randall-Secrest, N**

"What are you doing reading a newsletter when you could be outside? Now that summer has finally arrived, it's

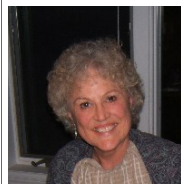
time to focus on those outdoor activities and take full advantage of the summer weather. Our squadron has lots of great get-togethers lined up for the summer so be sure to check out the article here by the best squadron Activities Director around, Donna Mason!

Our Anacortes Waterfront Festival rendezvous came off without a hitch and everyone had a good time as usual. Our new Vessel Examiner, Albert Miller was on-hand for vessel exams and I know several boats in our squadron got their sticker. Dale Libby manned the BBQ and the Hebrew Nationals were exceptional, I must say. We really enjoyed watching the boat builder races and I don't recall any rain the whole weekend. Thanks so much to all who organized, attended and helped out with the rendezvous and the meeting on the party dock.

Deanna and I are busy preparing for our upcoming backpacking trip of the Chilkoot Trail in Alaska and Canada in July. It's a 33-mile hike and we'll spend 5 ½ days to finish it with five other family members. We've been out there "hitting the trails" on evenings and weekends to prepare. We're also doing lots of organizing and packing/re-packing of our backpacks to make sure we're all set. In addition to our hike, we also plan to travel to the gold rush boomtown of Dawson City, Yukon Territory to visit the goldfields

and maybe even try our luck at panning and a "Sourtoe Cocktail". We hope to have a great slideshow of pictures to share when we return.

I hope your summer plans are most enjoyable and that we get to see you at a squadron activity or two. Safe boating and travels to you all.



P/C Donna Mason,

Independence Day Rendezvous

July 3-6, 2014

Bellingham's Squalicum Harbor, Gate 12 "U" Dock

By boat or car, you are welcome to join squadron members for an enjoyable weekend in Bellingham.

The 4th is on Friday. We officially have "U" Dock for July 3-6 so you can stay for the weekend after the holiday. So far three boats have signed up. Some boats from the Everett Squadron may be near us.

Thursday, July 3:

Arrive at East Entrance to Port of Bellingham Squalicum Harbor, (Fisherman's Memorial to port). Go to U Visitor's Dock; we'll help you tie up. If you call the Harbor Master 360 676-2542, VHF Channel 16, identify yourself as with Skagit Bay Sail & Power Squadron. Easiest to pay by check or cash.

We'll enjoy a low-key, relaxing day.

4 p.m. - Enjoy "happy hour" hors d'oeuvre or dinner nearby at Anthony's Home Port or dinner on your own.

Friday, July 4

Enjoy the Festival at Zuanich Point Park, Squalicum Harbor: live music, fun activities, food and crafts vendors, Boundary Bay beer garden and much more!

4 p.m. Happy Hour with very light hors d'oeuvre, phasing into

6:30 p.m. Evening potluck on U-dock.

10:15 p.m.: From your boat or on Visitor's Dock, watch the fireworks display over Bellingham Bay.

(If you come by car, come early for nearby parking, or expect a long walk back to your car. Try parking at Bellwether Way, Gate 3 via Coho Way, or South Harbor Loop)

Saturday, July 5 (ooh la la! includes special event!)

In the morning, take the shuttle to the Bellingham Farmers Market or shops in Bellingham or Fairhaven, check out museum exhibits, or poke around the marine supply stores in the neighborhood.

2 p.m. rain or shine **SPECIAL THIS YEAR:** "Sin & Gin Private Tour – Bellingham's Brothels and Boozers" Private guided walking tour by the Bureau of Historical Investigation & Good Time Tours LLC. Guide will be dressed in historical reproduction undergarments costume. We'll learn about the history of vice, sin and how society ladies, sex workers, saloon owners and no-good characters created the foundation of the "City of Subdued Excitement" ... and more! Minimum of 6 people must register with Donna. \$15 per person.

4 p.m. Happy Hour, and we can decide to potluck or go to a nearby pub for dinner.

Relax at the dock and watch the sun set.

Sunday, July 6

Checkout time is 1 p.m. Time to head out to your home port.

Slip space costs \$.75/ft/day which includes electricity. There is a 3-day limit for guest moorage, but some extension may be arranged. View the marina map and other info at Port of Bellingham's Squalicum Harbor Marina website: www.portofbellingham.com.

To reserve dock space or if you have questions: email donnajmason@gmail.com, with your boat name, length overall, arrival and departure dates.

Hope to see you there!



A White-Knuckle Ride

by Paul Rosetter

"That's a gale force wind. Let's get out of here", I shouted. That blow came up from what had been a good Walleye chop in less than a minute. It came from the south-southwest, giving momentum to waves over fifteen miles of fetch across water no more than 10 feet deep in most places, including where we were fishing. "Pull up your lines. We're outta here." Lines up, my fishing buddy, on the pedestal seat in the bow pulled up the trolling drogue while I secured the trolling motor and started our 60 hp engine. "Grab your rain gear. We're going to get wet", I said. We were off toward home which was south-southeast - about 80 degrees from the wind. The wave crests were already high - displaying a definite trough between them. I turned into the waves. They hit the bow with jolting thuds. "Why not ride along in those valleys until we get to the eastern shore where it should be calmer", my buddy hollered. Why not, I thought. After all, these aren't ocean swells. I turned the boat abreast the waves - but only for a few seconds. These may not have been ocean swells, but neither was this an ocean vessel. Immediately, the waves caused the 17-foot open boat to roll precariously. I extrapolated the cumulative effect of the next couple of waves and my heart jumped into my throat. I shoved the tiller away, twisted the throttle and we climbed the next wave. I had just completed teaching the American Boating Course where I'd told the class that in high waves, don't run parallel to them. I had just had a scary exhibit of why that is good advice. I chose a course of travel that approached

the white capped crests at an angle to reduce the incline but cut into them enough to also reduce their tipping push. The bow met each crest with a banging thud that threw spray high into the air and back over the boat. I got so I could anticipate each shower and nodded my head before each one to keep my glasses somewhat transparent. I adjusted the speed for each wave - a little umph to climb, a little sigh near the crest to reduce the thud. My buddy in the bow rose from his seat before each thud to let his legs absorb some of the blow. My sister lay on the deck close to the pivot of the vertically swinging craft and soon my buddy joined her. The course that seemed best to attack the waves was also a direct course to our cabin - an auspicious coincidence. The speck of cabins grew larger at an agonizingly slow rate. My hand on the tiller/throttle was sore - knuckles white. All I could think of was to maintain course and adjust speed. I knew from experience what could result from releasing grip on the tiller. The abrupt turn from engine torque would dump all of us into the cold drink before any corrective action could occur. I was glad we all wore life vests all the time when on the water. Eventually, those cabins loomed ahead, the waves lessened and we sped into the shelter of the little bay where cabin patrons relaxed in the sun, unaware of the white-knuckle conditions beyond.

FLOTSAM AND JETSAM

A nurse discovered a safe, easy way to remove ticks where they automatically withdraw themselves when you follow her simple instructions.

Read this one as it could save you from some major problems.

Tick Removal

Summer is here and the ticks will soon be showing their heads. Here is a good way to get them off you, your children, or your pets.

Give it a try!

Please forward to anyone with children, hunters or dogs; or anyone who even steps outside in summer!

A School Nurse has written the info below--good enough to share--and it really works!

"I had a pediatrician tell me what she believes is the best way to remove a tick. This is great because it works in

those places where it's sometimes difficult to get to with tweezers: between toes, in the middle of a head full of dark hair, etc."

"Apply a glob of liquid soap to a cotton ball. Cover the tick with the soap-soaked cotton ball and swab it for a few seconds (15-20); the tick will come out on its own and be stuck to the cotton ball when you lift it away. This technique has worked every time I've used it (and that was frequently), and it's much less traumatic for the patient and easier for me.."

"Unless someone is allergic to soap, I can't see that this would be damaging in any way. I even had my doctor's wife call me for advice because she had one stuck to her back and she couldn't reach it with tweezers. She used this method and immediately called me back to say, "It worked!"

Please pass on. Everyone needs this helpful hint!

Assorted recent boating activity photos: (more on page 5)



**Donna with 3 Northern Pike from Lk. Winniebegoshish, MN
Paul with a keeper Walleye**



Skagit Bay Sail & Power Squadron
Meeting Minutes
May 8, 2014

Meeting Location: Farmhouse Restaurant

Start Time: 1830 hours

Attendance:

George Johnson	Sandra Johnson	Albert Miller	Sharon Knowles
Bill Stewart	George Brooks	Jeanne Brooks	John Bellinger
Marlene Bellinger	Dale Libby	Kelly Libby	Jim West
Ruth Peterson	Kari Randall-Secrest	Debbie Richey	Paul Rosetter
Donna Mason	Bill Lundstrom	Rick Anderson	Otto Rasmussen
Stacy Connell	Michael Connell		

Invocation was given by Ruth Peterson

Flag salute was led by Albert Miller

Kari Randall-Secrest introduced guest P/C Jim West, who will be presenting the "On-The-Water" program.

Treasurer's Report by Michael Connell: The balance on April 30, 2014 was \$3,249.70.

Secretary's Report by Sharon Knowles:

Minutes for the March meeting were distributed at the meeting, and approved.

Administrative in Deanna Randall-Secrest's absence:

Activities Update was given by Donna Mason. A Waterfront Festival sign-up sheet was passed around.

Education Report by George Johnson:

There is an Education Seminar on May 17th, in Bellevue and there is a carpool going. Our squadron will have plenty of instructors. Several elective courses will be offered this year.

Executive Report in Mark Richey's absence:

Debbie reminded us of the offerings that were available in the Ship's Store.

Commander's Report by Kari Randall-Secrest:

Help was requested for the USPS booth at the Anacortes Trawler Fest.

Kari also reminded the Executive Committee that Bob Miller would be teaching a DB2000 refresher class.

Meeting was adjourned at 2015 hours.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Knowles
Secretary

FROM THE EDITOR: Have a safe and happy summer and see you on the water. Be safe and we will see you at meetings again in September.

More pics of our recent boating activities.



Anacortes Waterfront Fest Happy Hour with Town Crier



Deanna on cooking duty with Bill Lundstrom



Treasurer Mike Connell



Down and dirty boat race with Kelly in the rescue boat



Milk carton race contestants



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 JUN-AUG BIRTHDAYS

**Marlene Bellinger
Judy Bennett
Jodi Bluhm
Robin Caling
Cliff Cochran
Rae Cochran**

**Roy Graves
Sandy Johnson
Elisabeth Libby
Bill Lundstrom
Mary McCrae
Ann Meyers
Bob Miller
Bill Stewart
Fred Wahlgren
Ann Wilder**

~ 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	2014
ABC	42	20	29	15	24	19
Seamanship		8	2		10	
Piloting		4	1			
Advanced Piloting	3	3				
Junior Navigation	8			1		
Navigation		9				
Cruise Planning						
Instructor Development (Instructor Recert)					8	
Engine Maintenance			8			
Marine Electronics	9					
Marine Communications					7	
Marine Electrical Syst						
Weather						
Sail						
Operations Training	3	2				

Bridge Officers		
Commander	Kari Randall-Secrest, N	360-387-1194
Executive Officer	Mark Richey, SN	360-387-1260
Education Officer	George Johnson, SN	360-588-8125
Administrative Officer	Deanna Randall-Secrest, N	360-387-1194
Secretary	Sharon Knowles, AP	360 333-7808
Treasurer	Mike Connell, AP	425 327-3557
Executive Committee		
	Bob Miller, JN	360-588-9950
	Lynn Stewart, P	360-424-1270
	Sandy Johnson, P	360-588-8125
	Kelly Libby, S	360-435-3835
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
	Vacant	
	Vacant	
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	Vacant	
Radio Technical	Vacant	
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	Vacant	
Administrative Department		
Boating Activities	Donna Mason, AP	360 595-1083
Galley	Vacant	
Greeting	Vacant	
Membership	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Operations Training	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Programs	Vacant	
Property Officer	Vacant	
Supply Officer	Vacant	
Telephone	Vacant	
Secretary's Department		
Editor "Bitter End"	Mark Richey, SN	360-435-5542
Historian	Lynn Stewart, P	360-424-1270
Roster	Bob Miller, JN	360-588-9950
Scrapbook	Vacant	
Webmaster	Kari Randall-Secrest, N	360-387-1194
Auditing Committee		
1 Yr Chair	Dale Libby, P	360-435-3835
2 Yrs.	Sharon Knowles, AP	360 333-7808
3 Yrs.	Jean Miller, N	360-588-9950
Nominating Committee		
1 Yr. Chair	Jean Miller, N	360-588-9950
2 Yrs.	Vacant	
3 Yrs.	Kelly Libby, S	360-435-3835
Rules Committee		
1 Yr. Chair	Bill Stewart, JN	360-424-1270
2 Yrs.	John Bellinger, SN	360-757-8091
3 Yrs.	Ruth Peterson, SN	360-293-1888

Please note the vacancies. We would love to have someone fill these spots. They are just little fun spots and don't take much time. They really help out the squadron and make us better. Contact the Commander or department head if interested.