

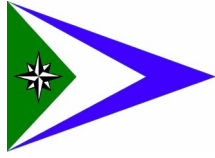
THE BITTER END

News from Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron December 2015

A Unit of United States Power Squadrons ® District 16

Web Page: www.skagitsquadron.org

Email: ssboatschool@hotmail.com



CALENDAR

5 Dec—Argosy Holiday Cruise, Kirkland
12 Dec—Annual Boat Parade Viewing, LaConner Pub
No regular meeting. The Boat Parade replaces it.
25 Dec Merry Christmas to All—Be Safe
01 Jan—Happy New Year—Remember BUI is a thing!
14 Jan—Regular Meeting, Farmhouse, Rendezvous Planning



**Have a safe and happy holiday. And remember, “HE” is the reason for the season
Some of us will do random boating. Let the editor know if you want to join us!**



Commander's Message Kari Randall-Secrest, N

Happy Holidays Skagit Bay Members!

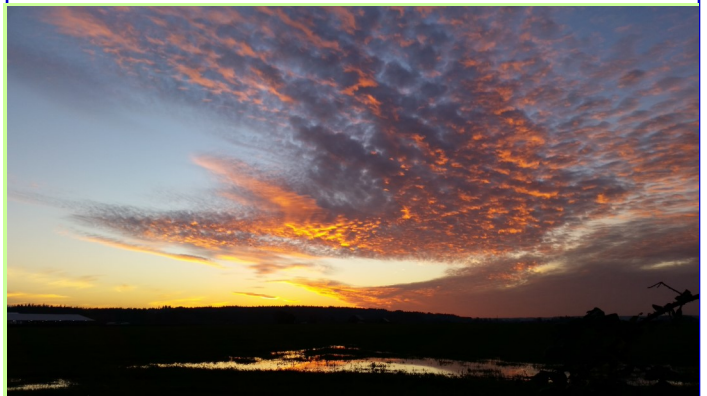
It is just crazy that December is here already! Saturday, December 12th is our Annual Holiday Dinner/Meeting at the La Conner Pub where we get to enjoy dinner and the always entertaining La Conner Lighted Boat Parade right there from the Pub. Look for more details about this get-together from Donna Mason later in this newsletter. As they say, “the more, the merrier” so I sure hope to see you all there!

Remember that our upcoming January meeting will also be our event planning meeting for 2016 (in lieu of a formal program), so be sure to bring your cruising ideas and suggestions and don't forget that all of our events need hosts to make them a success. Please consider hosting an event or rendezvous in 2016. It doesn't take a lot of work and is a great way for you to support your squadron and get involved.

Bob Miller's Piloting Class is well underway and well-attended! In fact, it is so well-attended, he recently had to request a larger classroom to accommodate all of the students! It sure is fantastic to see all the interest and enthusiasm for this class. You rock, Bob!

As we close out 2015, I want to thank all of you

for your friendship and support of the Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron. In order to host the monthly meetings and offer courses that are so vital in educating our boating community, and hopefully also grow the ranks of our members, we need many volunteers. If you'd like to contribute and be more involved in our squadron, let me know because I am sure we have a volunteer opportunity with your name on it!



Sunset over Stanwood last month. We live in a beautiful part of the country.

Feel free to party in the New Year but please be safe.

Your editor...





Education Department P/C Debbie Richey, AP

Did you know that USPS has a partnership with the Great Lakes Cruising Club? They offer webinars on various topics such as Cooking on Board, Introduction to Marine Radar, Safety for Cruising Couples and many courses on sailing the Great Lakes. The seminars cost \$15 for USPS members. The USPS site with more information: http://www.usps.org/e_stuff/glccs.html and the Great Lakes Cruising Club site: <http://www.glccschool.com/home>. You can enroll for free and then receive e-mail notices when the webinars are available.

The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) will be publishing a new edition of The American Practical Navigator (we call it Bowditch) in 2017 and they are looking for suggestions on improvement, content, and feedback. When you took your JN and N courses and if there was something that you thought needed to change in Bowditch, now is your chance! Please see this site for further information. <http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/?pageName=bowditchcall>.

For those in need of new charting tools Weems and Plath offer a 25% discount on their website: Weems and Plath Discount. Use the discount code USPS25 when checking out on their website: <http://www.weems-plath.com/>.

Have a great Christmas and Happy New Year! We're going out on the boat 12/30/15 to 1/2/15 (weather depending). Maybe we'll see you there! It's a great cruising time. Marinas are wide open and you see lots of different wildlife!



Executive Department P/DC Mark Richey, SN

New Boat Show efforts.

The future of the Power Squadron presence at the Seattle Boat Show is going to start to be much different.

The question has been asked "What do we even get out of it?" Not many contacts come out. The answer is "Getting our name recognized". "Putting our brand out there".

We may not have money this time for free entry into the show. This means that those of you that want to work the booth are going because you really want to and not because you get in free. This year we are adding the Simulator to the booth. The logistics of making this fit are going to be tight and not leave much room for a table. We may ask for preferential

space as folk lined up in aisle to get into booth is not allowed. Also, we may end up standing without chairs.

Because we are using the Simulator, it is required that at least one "Certifier" in booth at that time. We can use general members to chat with prospects in aisle but they need to be folks that have Squadron knowledge and not just be chatty with friends, especially knowledgeable women. Some of the commercial entities like Boat Ed use models as an attraction. We are not sure we want to go that route but we need some incentive to get the public into the booth to see what we have.

The Boat Show is next month and would love to have folks there but keep these about items in mind when you volunteer.

FLOTSAM AND JETSAM

A place for articles and items of general interest, Jokes, recipes, etc.

NOAA has cancelled the Small Craft Folio chart 18423. You can go to the link below and leave your comments about the cancellation of the chart. We have used this chart for years. It was easy to hold while underway and follow our route and one of our favorite charts.

U.S. COAST GUARD DISTRICT THIRTEEN – Nautical chart cancellation

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has canceled nautical chart 18423 FOLIO SMALL-CRAFT Bellingham to Everett Including San Juan Islands; Blaine. For additional information, please visit <http://ocsddata.ncd.noaa.gov/idrs/inquiry.aspx?frompage=ContactUs>

For those folks that travel past Smith Island:

WASHINGTON – STRAIT OF JUAN DE FUCA – EASTERN PORTION – Disestablishment of Minor Island Light and movement of Smith Island Light

The U.S. Coast Guard will be discontinuing Minor Island Light (LLNR16380) and moving Smith Island Light (LLNR 16375) from land to a location between Smith and Minor Islands, at approximate position 48-19-13.631N 122-49-51.121W. This relocation is due to the collapse of the tower at Minor Island, the loss of land mass at that location due to erosion and the deterioration of the tower structure and foundation on Smith Island Light. This relocation should be accomplished during the month of December 2015. The light characteristic, intensity and range will remain the same as is currently displayed at Smith Island Light.



Boating Activities P/C Donna J. Mason, AP

December 12, LaConner Lighted Boat Parade & Squadron Holiday Party at LaConner Pub –

Time to celebrate! This also is our December Members Meeting. We have confirmed reservation space for 24 people. Have dinner and watch the Lighted Boat Parade from the waterfront restaurant. LaConner installed new walkways along the channel so there is more space for outside viewing. Dress warmly and in the holiday spirit. If you'd like to make a monetary contribution to the local food bank, a Food Bank collection box will be available. Parking is on-street. Carpooling is recommended and also reduces the number of "designated drivers" needed. Hope for no gas leaks or other disaster this year...

RSVP by December 5 to donnajmason@gmail.com.

The LaConner Pub and Eatery, 702 S. 1st Street, LaConner.

5:30 p.m. Cocktails and Revelry begins .
6:00-7:30 p.m. Watch the boat parade from the restaurant's outside deck or warmly inside while eating dinner. We'll provide cake for dessert.

Food: The LaConner Pub and Eatery will offer its full menu, including prime rib. See their menu at www.laconnertavern.com. Eat as much or as you wish.

January 14, Cruise Planning Program at the Monthly Members Meeting.

January is just around the corner. Start gathering your thoughts for the January Member's 2016 Cruise Planning Meeting. Where would you like to rendezvous? At a dock or on the hook or some of each? Quiet places or festivals with lots of activities? Tried and true places or new adventures? Who will be rendezvous hosts? Share your wishes at the meeting so we can come up with a rendezvous schedule for 2016 that we'll all look forward to.

VERY HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO AND YOUR FAMILIES!

Mark and Debs Infamous Coffee Nudge

This is a recipe we made from a drink that we had at a Bellevue restaurant many years ago. The nudge was their specialty and we modified it so it could be made from readily available ingredients. It's a great winter boat drink or one for those chilly/windy winter nights.

1 Regular coffee mug or Irish Coffee glass
1 pack of instant hot cocoa (Swiss miss or Godiva best)
Kahlúa
Light Rum
Hot Coffee (dark is best)
Add ½ pack cocoa , 1 oz Kahlúa and ½ shot rum to mug
Fill with hot (hotter the better) coffee and stir. Add whipped cream to top. You may garnish with shaved dark chocolate or dark chocolate sprinkles if you wish... yum!

This is what you may have missed not getting out with us this past year. Come to the Cruise planning meeting in January so you can have input into plotting your course.



The little lake above Rosario on Orcas. It's a great little summer hike and I hear there are fish.



Our crew at Sucia in June. Always a fun and beautiful spot.



Adventuress under sail in Bellingham Channel. Its amazing what you miss if you don't get out at random times. We were under sail also.

All photos taken by your editor.

Skagit Bay Sail & Power Squadron

Meeting Minutes

November 12, 2015

Meeting Location: Farmhouse Restaurant

Start Time: 1832 hours

Attendance:

George Johnson	Sandra Johnson	Albert Miller	Sharon Knowles
Jeanne Brooks	George Brooks	Marlene Bellinger	John Bellinger
Bob Miller	Debbie Richey	Lynn Stewart	Bill Stewart
Deanna Randall-Secrest	Kari Randall-Secrest	Paul Rosetter	Donna Mason
Mike Wytychak	Sheryl Wytychak	Holly Chadwick	Mike Tucker
Pam Secrest	Nick Secrest	Louella Parker	Craig Ford
Billie Ford	Dick Hunter	Greg Kleven	Susa Cook
Richard Cook			

Invocation given by: George Brooks

Flag Salute was led by Albert Miller.

Secretary's Report by Sharon Knowles: Motion by Donna Mason to approve the October minutes published in the Bitter End, with one correction. Jean Miller received a plaque for her educational accomplishments. Congratulations. My apologies to Jean for my typo which instead resulted in her having an illness! Motion was seconded by Bob Miller. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report from Michael Connell: The balance was \$3,520.97 as of October 31, 2015.

Administrative Report by Deanna Randall-Secrest: The program will be "A Family Adventure: Hiking Alaska's Chilkoot Trail" presented by Kari and Deanna.

Donna Mason mentioned the upcoming rendezvous. Be sure to specify "the lead boat" when making reservations for the Argosy Cruise. Our holiday party will again be at the La Conner Pub, where we will watch the lighted boat parade.

Executive Report by Mark Richey: The Boat Show will require training for those who staff the booth.

Education Report by Debbie Richey: Bob Miller introduced the students from his piloting class, who were in attendance. Debbie Richey will send out flyers to advertise the upcoming ABC class which will be taught by Mike Wytychak.

Commander's Report by Kari Randall-Secrest: Submit merit mark information to Debbie Richey.

Old Business: Albert Miller presented information that he had gathered about staffing rest areas, while providing coffee and snacks as a fund-raiser. After some discussion, it was tabled until the January meeting.

New Business: None.


Meeting was adjourned at 1859 hours.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sharon Knowles
Secretary

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
DECEMBER
BIRTHDAYS**



Kira Aryss

**Kellie Dalyrmple
Ryan Lavine
Kelly Libby
James McClane
Pamela Mettler
Debbie Richey
William Robertson
Christine Woodward**

~ 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.

Ships Store

Did you know that our ship's store carries embroidered shirts, hats with our burgee on them, and burgees for your boat! Be sure to let me, Sheryl Wytychak, know if you would like a new shirt or hat! Make sure to check out the National Ship Store also: <http://store.shopusps.org/>.

New ship store keeper! See Sheryl Wytychak for all your squadron attire and flag needs.

Bridge Officers		
Commander	Kari Randall-Secrest, N	360-387-1194
Executive Officer	Mark Richey, SN	360-387-1260
Education Officer	Debbie Richey, AP	360-387-1260
Administrative Officer	Deanna Randall-Secrest, N	360-387-1194
Secretary	Sharon Knowles, AP	360 333-7808
Treasurer	Vacant	
Executive Committee		
	Bob Miller, JN	360-588-9950
	Donna Mason, AP	360 595-1083
	Sandy Johnson, P	360-588-8125
	Kelly Libby, S	425-359-7078
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	Vacant	
Local Board Public Boating	George Johnson, SN	360-588-8125
Local Board Advanced Grds	Rick Anderson, SN	360-757-6241
Local Board Elect Courses	John Bellinger, SN	360-757-8091
	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	Sheryl Wytychak	208-704-2249
Telephone	Vacant	
Secretary's Department		
Editor "Bitter End"	Mark Richey, SN	425-876-6274
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	Sharon Knowles, AP	360 333-7808
2 Yrs.	Bob Miller, JN	360-588-9950
3 Yrs.	Judy Bennett, S	
Nominating Committee		
1 Yr. Chair	Kelly Libby, S	425-359-7078
2 Yrs.	Jean Miller, N	360-588-9950
3 Yrs.	Vacant	
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. Also, the positions in red are unknown if they are correct. Contact editor or committee chair with corrections. We also need the class student count for the chart.