

THE BITTER END

March 2026



For Boaters, By Boaters

Web Page: www.skagitsquadron.org

Email: zsboatschool@hotmail.com

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

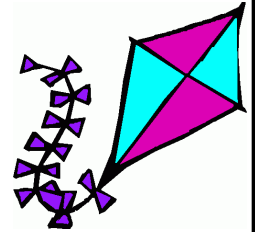


A Division Of United States Power Squadrons™
District 16

CALENDAR



- 12 March— Excom Meeting, Farmhouse 5:30PM
- 12 March— Regular Meeting, Farmhouse, Elections
- 17 March— Happy St Patricks Day
- 27-29 March— Friday Harbor Trip, Dinner Saturday



Come to the meeting this month. Our commander will have a program. Also this month the Richeys invite you to come to Friday Harbor. See the invitation here. On a final note, we are sad to say that the Bellevue Squadron, one of the oldest and biggest in district, is folding on May 1. Lets work on it not happening to us.



Commanders Message Debbie Richey, P

Can you believe that the Ides of March are only two weeks away? Where did January and February go? Winter has been a bust. Not much snow in the mountains for our reservoirs.

In January we planned several activities for the year. Make sure to look at the schedule in the newsletter. The first one will be a walk on ferry (or boat) trip to Friday Harbor. We have reservation at Downriggers for 4:30 PM. That will allow us to catch the 6:30 PM ferry back to Anacortes. We would love to see you there! Please let Debbie Richey know at drichey@rocketmail.com if you are coming.

We are planning to hold an ABC class this spring. Dates are to be determined.

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

Have a great March and Happy St. Patricks Day!

Friday Harbor Trip March 27-29

Come by boat or walk on the ferry. Friday Harbor has many shops to walk through or visit the whale museum in town. The ferry schedule will be the last day of the Winter schedule. We will take the 1:35 pm ferry from Anacortes, arrive in Friday Harbor at 2:45 pm. Dinner will be on Saturday at 4:30 at Downriggers Restaurant on the waterfront. We will catch the 6:20 pm ferry back to Anacortes and arrive at 7:50 pm. This is a great way to start the cruising season.

If you are coming by boat, you will call Port of Friday Harbor on 66A for a slip when in sight of the marina. All slips are first come first served until May 15.

For more information: Debbie Richey email: drichey@rocketmail.com

Downriggers menu: <https://www.downriggerssanjuan.com>

Ferry Schedule (make sure to click on March 22 to June 13 for correct schedule): <https://wsdot.com/ferries/schedule/scheduledetailbyroute.aspx?route=ana-sj#>

Whale Museum: <https://whalemuseum.org>

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.

Date	Destination	Host	Theme
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		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 __	Burrows Island Light House Tour		Lighthouse History, Dinner or late lunch together
June 5-7	D16 Rendezvous, Port Ludlow	D16 Cdr. _____	
June 11	Shelter Bay Squadron Picnic June Meeting		1 st 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

**Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron
Executive Committee and General
Meeting Combined Minutes February 12, 2026**

Attendance:

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

Meeting called to order at 5:30 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.

Administrative Officer – (Commander)

Activities –

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

Barbara and Steve Erickson will be transferring to our squadron. Bellevue squadron will be turning in charter May 1 because no members will accept bridge positions.

Education Officer – Adam Dietz

Date for next ABC class not yet determined.

Secretary - George Johnson

January meeting minutes as published in Bitter End to be corrected.

Treasurer – Jack Dyer

Bank balance reported.

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

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

Commander - Debbie Richey

Debbie Richey will attend D/16 Spring Conference and Change of Watch March 7. National meeting is February 17. Debbie will attend by zoom and expects to vote "NO" on the proposed dues increase. Result of audit of National's books has not been provided to squadrons.

Old Business – None.

New Business –

All members of bridge have agreed to remain in their positions for 2026-2027. Nominating Committee Report will be in the March Bitter End and we will vote to approve at the March meeting.

Meeting adjourned 6:00 pm.

**Skagit Bay Sail and Power Squadron
Executive Committee and General Meeting Combined Minutes
January 8, 2026 (CORRECTED)**

Attendance:

Mark Richey
Debbie Richey
Jack Dyer

George Johnson
Sandy Johnson
John Woodard

Glen Caporgno
Carolyn Caporgno

Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm.

Executive Officer – Mark Richey

Deception Pass Past Commander Jerry Liggett will confer with Commander regarding teaching together.

Administrative Officer – (Commander)

Christmas Boat Parade was cancelled, BUT our squadron still had dinner in LaConner at the Pub.

Spring Conference is in March. Debbie and Mark Richey expect to attend.

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

Education Officer – Adam Dietz

We have insurance to cover classes and must notify insurer of location and other information.

Secretary - George Johnson

November meeting minutes approved.

Treasurer – Jack Dyer

Bank balance reported.

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

Our annual collection for **Neighbors In Need** was made at the LaConner dinner, and the \$90 collected was **mailed to charity by Donna Mason. A thank you letter was received and forwarded to our Secretary.**

Commander - Debbie Richey

There was a brief discussion of the upcoming Spring Conference and potential attendees.

Old Business –

None.

New Business – Carolyn Caporgno led a session to plan our annual calendar of monthly events. Results will be published in the February Bitter End.

Report of the Nominating Committee

2026 - 2027

The following members have agreed to hold the shown positions for the 2026-2027 bridge year if they are elected. Elections will be held at the beginning of the March general membership meeting. If there are any concerns or additions, please address them with the squadron Secretary.

Submitted by Debbie Richey and George Johnson

Bridge Officers

Commander
Debbie Richey, AP

Exec Officer

Mark Richey, SN-IN

Education Officer

Adam Dietz

Administrative Officer

Open

Secretary

George Johnson, SN

Treasurer

Jack Dyer, AP

Executive Committee

Donna Mason, AP
Sandy Johnson, AP
Carolyn Caporgno, S

Auditing Committee

Jeannie Drummond
Sandy Johnson, AP

Nominating Committee

George Johnson, SN
Debbie Richey, AP

Rules Committee

Donna Mason, AP
George Johnson, SN

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

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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.