

# THE BITTER END

September 2026



*For Boaters, By Boaters*

Web Page: [www.skagitsquadron.org](http://www.skagitsquadron.org)

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A Division Of United States Power Squadrons™  
District 16



## CALENDAR

10 Sep—Regular and Ex Meeting, Farmhouse, 5:30  
26 Sep— Anniversary Cookout, Cornet Bay, 2PM  
03 Oct— District 16 Conference, SJYC, Friday Harbor



**Time to come back from summer cruises. Still good weather left so don't put boat away yet but great time for local boating. If you want a Sep or Oct boating excursion besides what we show, feel free to let us know or even plan it. The District Conference is coming up. Registration and Info will be available later.**



### Commanders Message Debbie Richey, P

Where has summer gone!  
Yesterday as I write this,  
Crystal Mountain (ski resort

by Mt. Rainier) had their first dusting of snow, in August! We had a great summer boating, sort of. We went South Sound for two weeks, ran into engine trouble in Kingston. We ended up staying an extra two days there. We didn't get as far south as we would have liked. But the weather was beautiful and we discovered a new state park. If you are ever in south sound, check out Ilhahee State Park. It's on the Kitsap Peninsula and faces the eastside of Bainbridge Island. If you want to walk up to the main road, it's a pretty steep climb. It's a beautiful park and no one was there at the docks.

So what's on the agenda for the rest of the year? We will have annual charter picnic at Cornet Bay picnic shelter (it's

part of Deception Pass State Park). It's on a no Discover Pass required day, September 26. If you're planning on going, make sure to let Carolyn Caporgno know. There is more information in this newsletter.

In October, we are planning another road trip to Port Townsend. You can walk on the ferry or drive your car. Port Townsend is a lovely town with lots of shops and an awesome farmers market on Saturday.

We had a successful ABC class this summer in Anacortes. If you are interested in assisting with the class, please let myself or Mark Richey know. We can always use the help.

Mark and I will be gone the month of September to UK. Mark is an avid Islay scotch fan and that is definitely on our itinerary.

We will see you in October!

## Skagit Bay's 23rd Anniversary Cookout, Saturday, September 26, 2026

Mark your calendar and come by boat or car to join Glen and Carolyn Caporgno for a relaxed anniversary cookout as we celebrate our squadron's 23rd anniversary together!

Rain or shine, we'll be gathered under a covered pavilion, so come ready for a fun afternoon with friends.

**Where:** Cornet Bay, Deception Pass State Park

**Address:** 160 Cornet Bay Road, off State Highway 20

**When:** 2 p.m. onward

**Coming by car?** It's a free parking day in all Washington State Parks.

**Coming by boat?** Please check the latest Washington State Parks regulations for the Cornet Bay docks.

We'll have burgers and hot dogs with all the fixings, plus anniversary cake for dessert. Please bring a lawn chair, your beverage of choice, and a side dish or dessert to share. Bring your own plate if you can, but don't worry—we'll have a few extras on hand.

**Please RSVP by Thursday, September 17, 2026, to Carolyn Caporgno at [carolyncaporgno@gmail.com](mailto:carolyncaporgno@gmail.com).**

We hope you can make it—we'd love to celebrate with you!

## Pictures of our June Meeting / BBQ at Shelter Bay



## San Juan Island Sculpture Park in July

Mark and Debbie Richey, Sandy Johnson, Glen and Carolyn Caporgno took the ferry to Friday Harbor. Once there, they hopped on the Jolly Trolley and rode to the 5th stop, San Juan Sculpture Park at Roche Harbor. Some sculptures are permanent pieces, while others are for sale. There was a wide variety of sculptures. The prices were too high for this group. The Sculpture Park covers about 20 acres. Some of us walked around a pond where we saw a turtle on one of the water-art pieces. It may have been a western painted turtle as a sign indicated there were that kind of turtles in the pond. We did not walk through the entire park. After looking at sculptures, Mark went on an adventure to go Geocaching. Players use their smartphone app to hide and seek hidden containers, called “geocaches”, at specific coordinates all over the world. According to an AI overview, there are around 4-6 permanent or active geocaches hidden on the grounds of the San Juan Islands Sculpture Park at any given time. I remember Mark saying he found four.

We walked down the road to Roche Harbor, had a delicious lunch at Madrona Bar and Grill, and spent a relaxing afternoon in the area. The flowers in the garden were amazing! We hopped on the trolley back to Friday Harbor, and then the ferry to Anacortes.





**Burrows Island Lighthouse Trip**



## **ENJOY Port Townsend for Architecture/Arts/Maritime Culture/Saturday night dinner**

**October 23-25, 2026**

Join the Caporgnos and Johnsons either on the ferry or by your boat. They will take the 11:45 a.m. ferry from Coupeville to Port Townsend, and plan to stay at Worldmark Discovery Bay Friday and Saturday nights. They will take the ferry back to Coupeville on Sunday at 3:30 p.m.

Book your reservations early and join us for dinner on Saturday night.

Possible side trips to be determined by group or go on your own:

~Saturday Farmer's Market

~Jefferson Museum of Art and History, 540 Water Street, Port Townsend, Thurs.-Sunday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., \$9.00/seniors

~Bookstores downtown at 820 and 829 Water Street

~Port Townsend Aero Museum/Spruce Goose Café for breakfast or lunch at Port Townsend International Airport, 105 Airport Road, Port Townsend (5 miles south of town) \$10.00/seniors and free parking

~Fort Worden State Park and the Fort

~Port Wilson Lighthouse, Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. (closed 12:30-1 p.m. for lunch)

Port Townsend Marine Science Center, 532 Battery Way, Fort Worden \$10/parking or DISCOVER PASS for Fort Worden State Park

~Fort Townsend State Park

~Fort Flagler State Park and lighthouse on Marrowstone Island

Food Ideas:

~Nifty Fifty's Soda Fountain for 50s diner-style burgers, shakes, and fries

~Blue Moose, breakfast at least one morning

~Sirens for dinner Saturday night or group choice

Contact Marina: Port of Port Townsend, [www.PortofPT.com](http://www.PortofPT.com) for boat arrangements.

**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                                                     |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| March 6-7      | D16 Spring Conference                              | Everett                 |                                                           |
| March 27-29    | Friday Harbor, San Juan Island, boat or ferry      | Mark & Debbie Richey    | 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 16         | Burrows Island Light House Tour                    | Caporgnos and Johnsons  | Lighthouse History, Dinner or late lunch together         |
| June 5-7       | D16 Rendezvous, Port Ludlow                        | D16 Cdr. _____          |                                                           |
| June 11        | Shelter Bay Squadron Picnic<br>June Meeting        | Dan and Elizabeth Niven | 1 <sup>st</sup> picnic this year                          |
| June 12-26     | Gulf Islands                                       | Mark & Debbie Richey    |                                                           |
| July 10-12     | Roche Harbor, San Juan Island<br>Boat or Car Ferry | Carolyn Caporgno        | 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                    |                         | 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                                       |

## 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](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                 | Debbie Richey, AP       | 360-387-1260 |
| Merit Marks                 |                         |              |
| 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.**