

**AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB** 

**Tacoma**   
**& South Puget Sound**

**The  
Wake Astern**

**September 2023    Monthly Newsletter    Vol. 84 No. 9**





Cdr Larry Warren, AP

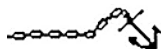
**COMMANDER**



**H**ello fellow Squadron members. I hope you are enjoying the last days of summer. It will soon be fall, and we can meet again for our annual Past Commander's BBQ and general meeting. I'm usually in the dark about this stuff (I'm not a big fan of the evening news anymore). Still, I recently heard that a Super Blue Moon will occur at the end of this month. The skies have been clear for viewing lately until we want to watch an event like this. This usually only happens about every two and a half years. A Supermoon is when the lunar perigee falls close to a full moon, and of course, a blue moon is when we have two full moons in the same month. So, this event will occur on August 30/31 at 9:35 p.m. ET. Hope you're able to catch it!

At the time of this writing, it's pouring down rain, which is a bummer if you are out on your boat or any other outdoor activity, but it's excellent in that we really need it; I don't know about you, but I swear that my outdoor plants don't like hose water near as much as the real thing. And with a little more rain, the burn ban will be lifted, and I can resume cleanup of my logging debris. The work continues at Whispering Creek Campground. My son, daughter-in-law, and grandson camped last weekend and worked on an expansion project for one of the tent sites. A larger space for a tent, a picnic table, and another small fire pit area. The new campground toilet is well underway; the slab is poured, the walls are up, the roof is on, and the siding is going on. Building this small project has made me painfully aware that it would be painful indeed (in the pocketbook) to create a family home right now! I give a bunch of credit to my brother Paul for enthusiastically helping with a good deal of this project; I've been working on making the windows, braces, and pre-hanging the door that Paul made.

Hope to see a lot of you soon!



(Pictures provided by Cdr Larry Warren, AP)

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**Past Commanders' BBQ**  
**September 26th, 2023 (6:30-8:30 PM)**  
**Day Island Yacht Club**  
**University Place**  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
**Executive Board Meeting**  
**September 12th, 2023 (6:00-8:00 PM)**  
**Black Bear Diner**  
**Lakewood, WA**

**Contents**

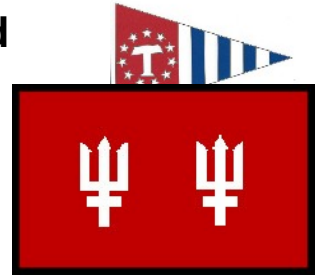
|                                     |        |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| AO Report                           | Page 3 |
| SEO Report                          | Page 4 |
| 2023 Rendezvous Schedule/VSC        | Page 5 |
| Des Moines Rendv Recap              | Page 6 |
| 2023-2024 TPS Organizational Roster | Page 7 |





Lt/C Stan Wolfe, SN-CN

## ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT



**G**reetings fellow members of America's Boating Club of Tacoma and South Puget Sound!

I'm sad to report that my telephone remains quiet as it is not ringing off the hook with volunteers offering to take on vacant positions. As such I will be proposing at the next Executive Board that we modify our current process for building and executing the Rendezvous schedule. First a little bit of history to provide some context. When I joined the club back in 2004, it was not unheard of to have

25 or more boats attend, even having a waiting list for some locations. Each event had a host or co-host. Over the years, attendance has markedly dropped with as few as three boats arriving. Previously unheard of, no-host events became the norm. While the impact of Covid-19 certainly heightened these trends, they were trends nonetheless. With the passing of our dear friend, LT Cindy Warren, AP, nearly a year ago, the position of Boating Activities Chair has remained vacant. The club has conducted just a few, anemically attended rendezvous since the end of 2020, until this last weekend. The Des Moines rendezvous of August 18 was encouraging with nine boats scheduled to arrive. We did have two last minute cancellations, but even seven boats in attendance constituted the best attended event in over two years. The rendezvous was the result of Geoff, P and P/Lt/C Nancy Ringstad, P volunteering to host it. They picked the location and the date then coordinated the initial parameters with the marina. Nancy and Geoff asked me to assist with the marina paperwork and mooring plan to which I happily agreed; they focused on food and entertainment. See the report of this event elsewhere in this edition. The Ringstads have inspired me to propose a new method of planning and conducting rendezvous. I will be proposing to the board that rather than build and fill a yearly plan with events to be conducted February through October, we solicit for hosts and locations. In other words, if someone wants to host a rendezvous, the club will add it to the schedule and advertise it. The club has funds normally budgeted for rendezvous via our Cruise account. Reimbursement for food and other services is set at \$125 for a two-night event and \$150 for a three nighter.

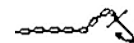
Assuming the board approves the process, the Administrative Officer will publish the schedule on our calendar. At this point, the next rendezvous would be hosted in February, somewhere. Oh, I do hope the telephone rings (or email, text, smoke signals).

Please look for and read the report of the Des Moines rendezvous by Geoff and Nancy Ringstad in this edition of the Wake Astern. I'd like to add a couple of observations. The marina dictated Mediterranean ties for boats 50 feet or more length overall (LOA). Our initial attendance roster had three such boats with another three ranging from 40 to 48 feet LOA. Upon arrival, skippers maneuvered, fighting wind and current, making it look easy. Same thing when heading out. I didn't realize how well until it was my turn to depart the corner, stern tied slip I was occupying. I got out but it wasn't pretty. In short, we have folks that know what they are doing. The other observation was the sense of camaraderie. Folks visited, talked boats, boating locations, politics, dog rearing, pretty much anything and everything under the sun. There was even some maintenance discussions and a few practical reviews.

The next gathering is the annual Sharp's Salmon Bake on Saturday, September 23 at 1:00 PM. P/C Chuck, AP and P/C Viki Sharp, S, have hosted this event for years while members of the Olympia Power Squadron and have invited Tacoma members after adopting us a few years back. Bring a side and plate, utensils will be provided as well as beer and non-alcoholic beverages. Their address is 5517 Kinney Road, Olympia, WA 98512. IF ATTENDING, PLEASE RSVP by calling (360) 866-7134 and leaving a message.

Don't forget the Past Commanders' BBQ at Day Island Yacht Club the fourth Tuesday in September, which would make it the 26th. The club provides hamburgers and hot dogs with buns and condiments. Plan on attending and bring your plates, utensils and a side dish to share. Just as a reminder, we don't run a bar anymore, so if inclined, bring your own adult beverage.

That's all for now. Stay tuned, stay safe, and do some boating!





Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S  
Sq Education Officer

# EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT



I hope everyone is enjoying this wonderful weather either out boating (like we are in Desolation Sound, Canada) or at home in Puget Sound! How lucky we are to live in this part of the country! There are several boating classes starting soon!

Gary Ball has graciously agreed to teach MARINE NAVIGATION (Piloting) again via Zoom starting September 12th for 10 weeks. You won't ever get lost or run aground when you know marine navigation, whether for short day trips or long multi-day cruises. Learn the essentials of safe coastal and inland navigation using basic GPS in conjunction with charts and other marine data. The *Marine Navigation* course teaches you how to use the GPS along with traditional dead reckoning techniques for planning and laying out safe routes, as well as ensuring that you are on course while underway.

MARINE ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS is being offered by the Everett club starting September 13 virtually.

Don't get short circuited; learn how boat electrical systems work, how to diagnose problems, and how to do simple repairs and upgrades. Boat electrical systems are increasingly under load with power demands for electronic navigation, radar, powered windlasses and winches, interior and exterior lighting, personal electronic devices, and more. Most boats have both DC and AC power. Learn about voltage drops, current demands, wiring, and so on. This course covers the topics you need and want to know.

For more information and to register for this class click here:

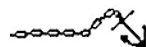
<https://www.usps.org/cgi-bin-nat/eddept/800/getregformx.cgi?L-17697>

Of course, online courses are always available here: <https://americasboatingclub.org/index.php/learn/available-online>

We also have the basic boating class, America's Boating Course, starting October 16 for 5 weeks at Day Island Yacht Club. Bob Hays will be teaching this class. If you know anyone, teenagers included, that need their Washington State Boaters Card this is the class to take!

To register for ABC or Piloting click here: <https://americasboatingclub.org/index.php/find-a-class-near-you?zip=98467&range=20>

Please contact me if you have any questions. Benric7@gmail.com



(MOB Training)



(Desolation Sound)

(Pictures provided by Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S)



# Tacoma & South Puget Sound 2023 Rendezvous Schedule

September 23

Salmon Bake

Chuck & Vicki Sharp's Home  
(See details on Page 3)



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**Phone: 253-350-4884**  
**Address: 4634 Kent Ct.**  
**Kent, WA 98032-7112**

P/D/C Craig Brown, SN-CN is our VSC Chairperson.

Address where the VSC inspectors should send a copy of inspection reports to: 4634 Kent Ct, Kent WA 98032-7112. He will also be taking requests for VSC supplies etc. as well as helping organize VSC team events that we may do.



**Des Moines Rendezvous**  
**August 18 - 20, 2023**  
Hosts Geoff & Nancy Ringstad

America's Boating Club of Tacoma and South Puget Sound made a great showing in Des Moines over the August 18-20 weekend with 7 boats and a few folks driving up for various parts of the weekend.

Geoff and Nancy experienced much longer than expected wait times getting boat repairs completed, and as when they arrived by car on Friday afternoon around 2, our able dockmaster, Stan had their boat, GreyWolfe's tied up at the bottom of the gangway to be in a perfect position to greet everyone and step in for much of the hosting.

Brian and Barbara Prudente's Sjoen, with Mason Dixon were docked next to GreyWolfe's. Closer to the gas dock Gary and Barb Dildine were docked in their boat, Little Eagle, next to Tourmaline, Jon Everett and Sharon Cryan who were hosting their neice's partner Charles Wright from Vermont. Soon after we arrived, Todd and Melinda Mackey arrived on Empress, tying up next to Sjoen, and then Mike and Jenna docked Escapades by Little Eagle. As chairs lined the dock on this warm August Friday afternoon, Larry Warren arrived, and it was so nice to see him! Shortly thereafter, Barnacle Betsy was brought in by Beth and Richard Stone and their son, Ian. It was fun to see so many beautiful boats together, everyone reconnecting and enjoying each other's company on our rendezvous.

Friday dinner was hosted by Anthony's restaurant as everyone who wanted to find their way to dinner. Anthony's peach-featured desserts were almost too much for Barbara to resist, so we wonder if she made her way back on Saturday for a little treat! We may never know!!

Early Saturday morning, Stan set out coffee for early bird dock talk to begin. Geoff and Nancy returned by car and set out a breakfast buffet in the Des Moines cabana. The veggie and cheese egg wraps and fruit in the cabana provided an easy way for us to gather and talk about our boating adventures, and life in general with each other. Larry returned and Chuck and Pattie Vaden drove up and caught the last bit of breakfast and spent time visiting with folks. The afternoon activities for rock painting and playing Ransom Notes were kiboshed due to the extensive heat in the cabana. Instead, the Des Moines Farmers' Market provided such an unexpected and delightful experience for all just at the top of the gangway. From soaps to strawberries, amazing cookies to kettle corn, there was an amazing array of offerings from classy vendors who took great care and pride in what they bring to market. The renovations made by the City of Des Moines to their waterfront is worth mentioning as it is beyond anything we've seen at a waterfront marina. If you drive up between now and the end of September, the Saturday Farmer's Market will be there for you to enjoy.

Folks spent the rest of the afternoon either relaxing on their boat, dock talking or taking in the live music that began at the Farmers' Market and continued at the Quarterdeck, a waterfront beer garden. Jackie Mattox drove up for a quick visit and to complete some Treasurer duties. A potluck brought everyone together again for dinner.

Stan and Deb put out coffee, Trader Joe's pastries and oranges for the Sunday morning send off. All in all, it was a terrific weekend, and we look forward to hosting another rendezvous next summer, with our boat, Cinnamon Girl! If in the meantime you would like to host, contact Stan for support and guidance. Stan made it so easy to be a host and everyone had so much fun!



## TACOMA POWER SQUADRON 2023 – 2024

|                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Commander              | Cdr Larry Warren, AP     |
| Executive Officer      | Lt/C James Harden, JN-CN |
| Administrative Officer | Lt/C Stan Wolfe, SN-CN   |
| Educational Officer    | Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S |
| Secretary              | Lt/C Jin Fugate          |
| Treasurer              | Vacant                   |

### COMMANDER'S DEPT

|                |                               |
|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Flag Lt        | Lt Mason Dixon                |
| Sunshine       | Lt Leslie Burton, S           |
| Merit Mark     | P/D/C Christine Rasmussen, SN |
| Galley Manager | Lt Lorraine Stargel, AP       |

### EXECUTIVE DEPT

|                   |                           |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Executive Officer | Lt/C James Harden, JN-CN  |
| Safety Officer    | Vacant                    |
| Coop Charting     | P/D/C James Harden, JN-CN |
| VSC Chairperson   | P/D/C Craig Brown, SN-CN  |
| Radio Tech        | P/C Andy Temple, AP       |
| Boat Show         | Vacant                    |
| Legislative       | Vacant                    |

### ADMINISTRATIVE DEPT

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| Administrative Officer       | Lt Stan Wolfe, SN-CN                         |
| Boating Activities           | Vacant                                       |
| Membership                   | P/C Jackie Mattox, AP                        |
| Membership Involvement       | P/C Jackie Mattox, AP                        |
| Operations Training Programs | P/C Stan Wolfe, SN-CN<br>Lt Barbara Prudente |

### SECRETARY DEPT

|                  |                        |
|------------------|------------------------|
| Web Master       | Lt Tom Ferree, JN      |
| Newsletter       | P/C Richard Mattox, AP |
| Historian        | Vacant                 |
| Commencement Bay | P/C Jackie Mattox, AP  |

### TREASURER DEPT

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Treasurer        | Vacant           |
| Property Officer | Vacant           |
| Ship's Store     | Lt Karen Jackson |

### EXECUTIVE DEPT

|           |                           |
|-----------|---------------------------|
| 1 Yr Term | P/Lt/C Sam Hill, AP       |
| 1 Yr Term | P/C Richard Mattox, AP    |
| 1 Yr Term | Lt Debbie Wolfe           |
| 2 Yr Term | P/C Gary Dildine, AP-IN   |
| 2 Yr Term | Lt Barbara Dildine, AP-IN |
| 3 Yr Term | Lt Becky Arrington, S     |
| 3 Yr Term | Lt Jeff Krueger, S        |

### FINANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE

|           |                       |
|-----------|-----------------------|
| 1 Yr Term | Lt Leah Hafterson, AP |
| 2 Yr Term | Lt Becky Arrington, S |
| 3 Yr Term | Lt Tom Ferree, JN     |

### RULES COMMITTEE

|           |                         |
|-----------|-------------------------|
| 1 Yr Term | Lt Lorraine Stargel, AP |
| 2 Yr Term | P/C Bill Larsen, AP     |
| 3 Yr Term | Mitch Carroll, SN       |

### NOMINATION COMMITTEE

|           |                           |
|-----------|---------------------------|
| 1 Yr Term | P/C Gary Dildine, AP-IN   |
| 2 Yr Term | P/C Stan Wolfe, SN-CN     |
| 3 Yr Term | P/D/C James Harden, JN-CN |

### EDUCATION DEPT

Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S

### ABC CHAIRPERSON

Lt Scott MacLeod, P

### ELECTIVE COURSES CHAIRPERSON

Vacant

### ADVANCED GRADES CHAIRPERSON

P/C Kevin Kennedy, SN

**BRIDGE OFFICERS**

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Cdr Larry Warren, AP  
(206) 571-3099

Executive Officer  
Lt/C Jim Harden, JN-CN  
(360) 870-5530

Administrative Officer  
Lt/C Stan Wolfe, SN-CN  
(253) 536-3309

Educational Officer  
Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S  
Email: benric7@gmail.com

Secretary  
Lt Jin Fugate  
Email: a194566@gmail.com

Treasurer  
**Vacant**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Lt/C Sam Hill, AP  
P/C Richard Mattox, AP  
Lt Debbie Wolfe  
P/C Gary Dildine, AP-IN  
Lt Barbara Dildine, AP-IN  
Lt Becky Arrington, S  
Lt Jeff Krueger

**BOATING ACTIVITIES CHAIR**

**Vacant**

***The Wake Astern***

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ricque0602@comcast.net

**SHIPS STORE**

Lt Karen Jackson

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Cover photo by  
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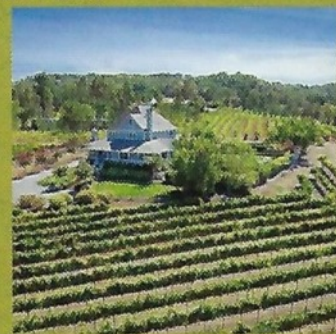
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# September 2023

Sun                  Mon                  Tue                  Wed                  Thu                  Fri                  Sat

1                                  2

3                                  4  
Labor Day                                  5                                  6                                  7                                  8                                  9

10                                  11                                  12                                  13                                  14                                  15                                  16

**Ex.Bd Mtg  
6:00-8:00 PM  
@ Black Bear Diner**  
**Marine Navigation  
via Zoom**

17                                  18                                  19                                  20                                  21                                  22                                  23

**Marine Navigation  
via Zoom**

**Salmon Bake  
@ Sharp's**

24                                  25                                  26                                  27                                  28                                  29                                  30

**Gen Mtg                  Deadline for  
6:30-8:30 PM          October edition  
@ DIYC                  The Wake Astern**  
**Marine Navigation  
via Zoom**

# October 2023

| Sun | Mon | Tue  | Wed  | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|--|--|-----|-----|-----|
| 1   | 2   | 3<br>Marine Navigation<br>via Zoom   | 4  | 5   | 6   | 7   |
| 8   | 9   | 10<br>Ex.Bd Mtg<br>6:00-8:00 PM<br>@ Black Bear Diner<br>Marine Navigation<br>via Zoom | 11   | 12  | 13  | 14  |
| 15  | 16  | 17<br>Marine Navigation<br>via Zoom  | 18   | 19  | 20  | 21  |
| 22  | 23  | 24<br>Gen Mtg<br>6:30-8:30 PM<br>@ DIYC<br>Marine Navigation<br>via Zoom               | 25<br>Deadline for<br>October edition<br>The Wake Astern | 26  | 27  | 28  |
| 29  | 30  | 31<br>Halloween<br>Marine Navigation<br>via Zoom                                       |  |     |     |     |

TACOMA POWER SQUADRON  
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**SEPTEMBER 2023**

