


**AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB** 

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

**The  
Wake Astern**

**March 2021**

**Monthly Newsletter**

**Vol. 82 No. 3**





**COMMANDER**



**H**ello fellow boaters.

Well, it's time to start getting ready for boating season. It may be a little early yet, but it's not that far away. Time to check out your electronics for proper function, get the engine tuned up and outdrive serviced if you haven't yet. Do you need new bottom paint? Do those lines need replacing that were looking pretty sad last time out on the boat? Remember to give your boat a thorough going over, before you go. Did you purchase a new boat? If so, have you updated your float plan information with the people you leave it with? There is a lot to think about when you own a boat.


Cdr Gary Dildine, AP-IN

I attended the National Virtual Governing Board Meeting on Feb 20, and came away with a lot to think about. The United States Power Squadron is roughly 25% of the size now that it was 20 years ago. There has been a slow decline in membership for several years now. It is not just USPS that has this problem. I have personally witnessed this firsthand in several organizations that I am active in. People just don't join organizations like they used to, whether it's Churches, the Kiwanis club, PTA, boating groups, or car clubs. Due to lower member numbers, finances are tighter than ever at the National level. I bring this up not to spread doom and gloom, but to let you know there will be changes happening. Some have already occurred, for instance there is no longer an inventory in the ships store sitting on the shelf. Everything is made to order and then shipped directly to you. Many changes have yet to be determined, just be aware they will be coming, and should make our organization stronger and more adaptable to change.

One thing that was great to hear was that despite all of the problems related to covid-19, ABC classes across the nation are up in numbers, as there has been a large influx of first-time boaters. Also, with the virtual classes it's more accessible to people whose schedule would otherwise keep them from taking classes. If you want to take a class that Tacoma is not currently conducting, it's now possible to take one virtually from another Squadron that does have the class, even if it's clear across the Nation. Our website, Wake Astern, and Education Dept. are working hard to keep you aware of educational opportunities that are available.

The next National Governing Board will be August 25 – September 5. Plan now to virtually attend and see what new ideas are coming our way. Also remember that the District 16 Spring Governing Board and C.O.W. Will be virtual and will be on Saturday March 13. Tune in and see what's going on at the District level. I'm hearing some interesting things are on the Horizon. Also, D16 plans to have our annual District Rendezvous at Poulsbo on June 11 – 13, so mark it on your calendar now. There will be some changes. At this time, there will be no group dinner, or meetings. We will just be sharing fellowship with our brother and sister boaters.

Here at home, I would like to extend kudos to several people from our Squadron. P/C Larry Warren has been asked by National if they could reprint his article about our Toy and Food Drive in The Ensign. District 16 ran it in the recent Cardinal Points also. Our ASEO Sandi Carroll earned her 25th Merit Mark in 2020 and is now a Life Member, congratulations Sandi. P/C Jim and Debbie Harden made the National Co-op Charting Honor Roll. Ask Jim, our incoming Exec Officer for 2021, how they did it, he'd be happy to fill you in. Last but not least, our website and The Wake Astern both received awards for their excellence in 2020.

Finally, Tacoma is planning on having a vessel in the Daffodil Marine Parade, subject to covid restrictions, on April 18. I don't have a lot of information at this point to pass on. As more information becomes available, I will try to get that info out to the members. Be safe in all of your travels, take care. 

**General Meeting**  
**March 23rd, 2021**  
**7:00-9:00 PM**  
**via Zoom**  
\*\*\*\*\*  
**Executive Board Meeting**  
**March 9th, 2021**  
**7:00-9:00 PM**  
**via Zoom**

**Contents**

XO Report	Page 3
SEO Report	Page 4
VSC/Sq Honor Roll Cert	Page 5/6
February Exec Brd Mtg Minutes	Page 7/8
2021 TPS Rendv Schedule	Page 9
2020-2021 TPS Organizational Roster	Page 10





# EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT



*Lt/C Stan Wolfe, SN-CN*

**G**reetings from your Executive Officer!

USPS conducted a virtual Annual Meeting February 15 - 25, 2021. The meeting was actually a series of seminars, breakout sessions and the National Conference where the bridge officers and Chief Commander give their reports. I attended most of the National Conference on Saturday, February 20. Of interest was the message from the Chief Commander and one of the Coast Guard's Vice Admiral's. My takeaway from this meeting was that while USPS membership continues to decline, the rate has slowed; money expenditures dropped in the last year so National is not hurting as much financially; that first time boater purchases are up and so is the accident rate - bottom line: USPS can continue to provide a valuable service with our boating safety instruction. I also attended a session on the replacement for DB2000. If you have any questions or interest about this, please contact me.

D16 Spring Conference and Change of Watch is March 13 via Zoom. I plan to attend along with five other delegates and the Commander. We will report on significant results.

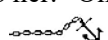
Our club's Change of Watch is scheduled for April 27, 2021. I've begun planning and expect it will be conducted via Zoom. We are garnering more attendance with each Zoom General Meeting so I'm hoping for a great turnout. I've seen two advantages with our Zoom General Meetings: they tend to be shorter in duration and attendees can be wearing their jammies and no one is the wiser. I'm hoping we can meet face-to-face in September for our annual Past Commander's BBQ, but we won't know for sure until later in the summer.

Vessel Safety Checks are back in play. Please schedule yours by contacting Lt Sue Walker, P via e-mail sue98402@gmail.com or cell 253 213 2850.

The one scheduled rendezvous is Swantown on May 28, 2021. Contact our Boating Activities Chairperson Lt Cindy Warren, AP if planning to attend.

I've broken out the 2021 TPS Cruise by location and participants. There are 72 total slots but only 32 filled - I hope we can close the gap. Current vacancies by port of call:

- Poulsbo, July 23 - July 25: 4
- Port Ludlow, July 25 - July 27: 5
- Port Townsend, July 27 - July 30: 5
- Pleasant Harbor, July 30 - August 2: 6
- Kingston, August 2 - August 5: 6
- Brownsville, August 5 - August 8: 5

Please look at your calendar and contact me to sign up. I'm shooting for the end of May to have everything locked down and I have a schedule set up for monies due and dates for submission of fleet information to each port. For folks planning to attend the 2021 cruise, please pay special attention to Port Townsend at Hudson Point Marina. Individual skippers need to call and reserve their slip. And a change to arrangements at Port Ludlow also needs your attention. Please Call the Harbor Master, Kori Ward (360-437-0513), to pass on payment information directly to her. Once you have reserved for either or both locations, please let me know. That's it for now - see you on the water! 

Closing date for articles is the fourth Wednesday of each month. Please direct all articles to the Editor. E-mail to: ricque0602@comcast.net. Mail to: 5105 Grand Loop, Apt # 811, Tacoma, WA 98407. Telephone: (253) 581-1732. Please submit member address and other data changes to the Tacoma Power Squadron Secretary.



*Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S  
Sq Education Officer*

# EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT



*Lt/C Sandi Carroll, SN  
Asst. Education Officer*

Spring is approaching and with that the thought of more boating is in the air. Since the pandemic more people have taken to the water for “social distancing”. The nation has seen more water related accidents probably due to lack of boating education. Don’t let this happen to you!

Currently we have an Advanced Piloting class being taught by Gary Ball. March 1 was the start of ABC (America’s Boating Course) taught by 4 instructors. We should have another ABC in May. If you know of anyone interested in taking this course pass the word along. Speaking of ABC, Brenda Williamson is stepping down as chairperson of ABC after many years, so we are looking for someone to fill her shoes. Please let me know if you are interested in this position.

We have been asked to teach the “Partner in Command” class in May to Fox Island Yacht Club. This is a very popular class that teaches what to do in case the captain can no longer operate the boat and the “partner or first mate” needs to take control. Let me know if there is any interest in this class in case another class should be scheduled.

Classes being offered by other squadrons virtually are:

CLASS	CLUB	START Date
Piloting	Seattle	April 13, 2021
Advance Piloting	Seattle	April 14, 2021
Trailerling	Everett	April 3, 2021
AIS for boaters	Friday Harbor	May 17, 2021

For more information and more classes click on the link below.

<https://americasboatingclub.org/find-a-course-near-you?zip=98467&range=150>

Happy boating!!



**Need a Vessel Safety Check?**

**It's Fast, It's Easy, and best of  
all,  
IT'S FREE !!!**



**All you have to do is contact**

**Lt Sue Walker, S**

**Email: [sue98402@gmail.com](mailto:sue98402@gmail.com)**

**Phone: (253-213-2850)**

Susan Walker is our VSC Chairperson, phone number: 253-213-2850. **Please note new email address above.**

Address where the VSC inspectors should send a copy of inspection reports to Sue Walker, P.O. Box 519 Tacoma, WA 98401. She will also be taking requests for VSC supplies etc. as well as helping organize VSC team events that we may do.

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**Commander:**

Attached is your Squadron Honor Roll certificate for 2020. Due to not having an in person meeting this year, we have sent out Individual, Squadron and District Honor Roll certificates via PDF.

Please print yours to share with your Squadron.

And for your information, the following members of Hartford made the individual Honor Roll. Please talk this up so that others in your Squadron might want to get involved in future years with the Co-op Charting program. There are lots of opportunities to engage members.

Thanks, and Congratulations,

Cdr. Charles Ibach III, SN-ACN  
National Co-op Charting committee

## Cooperative Charting Program



**2020**



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## HONOR ROLL

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**Presented to**  
**James Harden**  
**Deborah Harden**

**D16**

**For superior performance in the program.**

**Tacoma Power Squadron**  
Executive Board Meeting Minutes  
conducted via Zoom  
February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**ROLL CALL** (Quorum = 5 Bridge & 5 Board Members)

**Bridge Officers responding:**

CDR Gary Dildine, AP-IN - Commander  
Lt/C Stanley Wolfe, SN-CN – Executive Officer  
Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S – Educational Officer  
Lt/C Beth Stone, S - Secretary  
Lt/C Jackie Mattox, AP, Asst Treasurer, Membership

**Executive Board Members: responding**

P/C Richard Mattox, AP  
Lt Barbara Dildine, AP, IN  
P/C Larry Warren, AP  
P/C Tim Craig  
Lt/C Karen Jackson,  
Board Members not present: Lt Sam Hill, Lt Cathy Reed

**Members in attendance:**

R/P/C Jim Harden, JN-CN  
Lt Cindy Warren, AP

**OFFICER REPORTS**

**Executive Officer** – Lt/C Stanley Wolfe, SN-CN

- Passed the Vessel Safety Check decals to Lt Sue Walker
- We have a total of 72 slots for the 2021 Summer Cruise, only 32 filled to date

**Admin Officer** –

Vacant, but nothing to report.

**Secretary** – Lt/C Beth Stone

- No new news.

**Treasurer** – P/C Jackie Mattox

- Operating Acct = \$13,300.29 + Cruise Acct = \$934.27 + Savings = \$7,411.16 = Total of \$21,645.72.

**Education Officer** – Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S

- AP class continuing with Gary Ball
- People are not used to regular size charts
- ABC class on March 1<sup>st</sup>. Will use the Squadron Zoom account for classes.
- Brenda wants to step down as ABC chair, so looking for a new person to fill position.

**(Exec Brd Mtg Minutes continued on Page 8)**



(Exec Brd Mtg Minutes continued from Page 7)

**Commander** – Cmdr Gary Dildine, AP-IN

- Have not received a list of who received merit marks for 2020. Reached out to District to ask how to access the info. Did receive a copy of the list and sent to Christine. Will be sending update on some hours for some members.
- New Member – Philip Sidebottom

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Presentation for Feb Genl Meeting? Who to contact at National to ask about different programs we could use for the general meetings? Want to make sure there is no copyright infringement to use any of the programs.
- Lt Susan Walker – make sure we can get decals for the other examiners
- First time we have a full slate of Bridge Officers which now include:
  - Auditing Committee – Lt Tom Ferree, AP
  - Rules Committee – Lt Lorraine Stargel, AP

**OLD BUSINESS**

- **Daffodil Marine Parade** – Limited # of boats coming in. Join in parade in front of the yacht club. People are signing up. Parade is on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Will bring it up at the general meeting to remind people about it. “Reach for Your Star” is the theme. Will have shirts by order only. They are ¾ zip style, blue and have the logo on them. They are \$43 ea. Just the parade unless WA opens on Phase 3, but not expecting it.
- **Election** – 2 weeks from today. Larry is the chairman of the nominating committee. How do we do the voting so there are no errors? Just ask if there is no one against it and it would stand as long as we have a quorum. The list is in the Wake Astern.
- **National Governing Board Business Meeting** – February 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am – can review on the national web site. National is allowing the voting for SEO’s without approval from higher up
- **D16 Spring Gov Board/C.O.W. Meeting** – Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup> – We have room for 6 delegates. We will bring up at general meeting that we are looking for delegates. Larry Warren has volunteered. Jackie & Richard will volunteer if we don’t get enough volunteers.
- **Credit Card Reader** – Handle payments for supplies and classes with a credit card. US Bank - \$10 a month. 2.6% for swipe. Auto transfer to checking account. Jackie would like to try it. Keeps transactions simple without additional apps. Motion to pass. Voted to proceed.
- **Formula to decide how much to charge for classes.** Cost of course materials, plus 35% for members, 65% plus \$20 for nonmembers. This covers tax and shipping as well. Continue to charge what we currently charge for the March ABC Class.
- **Property at Sharps** – will delay before we are able to go to review everything. Most likely it will be sometime in March.
- **Change of watch** – due to Covid, may have to do a swearing in somehow. May watch how they do it for District and mimic it.

Adjourned at 8:00 pm



# Tacoma & South Puget Sound 2021 Rendezvous Schedule

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May 28-31

Swantown (Memorial Day)

Need Hosts

Any Marina with a phone # means you must call the marina and the host or fleet captain to reserve for the weekend. Please call host if attending a rendezvous for planning purposes. Please consider hosting a rendezvous or helping to host.

Cindy Warren 360-897-8692 [c.m.warren-7@hotmail.com](mailto:c.m.warren-7@hotmail.com)

Procedures have been put into place to insure TPS's Defibrillator will be ready and available in case of unforeseen emergencies that might take place on any of our rendezvous. This life saving device will be placed on the current Commander's boat or on the designated Host's boat for all of our future rendezvous.



**TACOMA POWER SQUADRON  
2020 - 2021**

Commander	Cdr Gary Dildine, AP,IN
Executive Officer	Lt/C Stan Wolfe, SN,CN
Administrative Officer	<b>Vacant</b>
Educational Officer	Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S
Secretary	Lt/C Beth Stone
Treasurer	Lt/C Aaron Strasser, S

**COMMANDER'S DEPT**

Flag Lt	P/C Larry Warren, AP
Sunshine	Lt Leslie Burton, S
Merit Mark	P/D/C Christine Rasmussen, SN
Galley Manager	Lt Lorraine Stargel, AP

**EXECUTIVE DEPT**

Executive Off	Lt/C Stan Wolfe, SN,CN
Safety Off	<b>Vacant</b>
Coop Charting	R/P/C Jim Harden, SN, CN

Radio Tech	P/C Andy Temple, AP
VSC Chair	Lt Sue Walker, P
Boat Show	<b>Vacant</b>
Legislative	<b>Vacant</b>

**ADMINISTRATIVE DEPT**

Admin Off	<b>Vacant</b>
Boating Activities	Lt Cindy Warren, AP
Membership	P/C Jackie Mattox, AP
Mbrship Involvement	P/C Jackie Mattox, AP
Operations Training Programs	P/D/C Otto Rasmusen SN, CN Lt Barbara Prudente

**SECRETARY DEPT**

Secretary	Lt/C Beth Stone
Web Master	Lt Tom Ferree, S
Newsletter	P/C Richard Mattox, AP
Historian	<b>Vacant</b>
Commencement Bay	P/C Jackie Mattox, AP

**TREASURER DEPT**

Treasurer	Lt/C Aaron Strasser, S
Asst Treasurer	P/C Jackie Mattox, AP
Ship's Store	P/C Tim(P) & Linda(S) Craig
Property Off	<b>Vacant</b>

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

1 Yr Term	P/C Richard Mattox, AP
1 Yr Term	Lt Karen Jackson
1 Yr Term	P/C Tim Craig, P
2 Yr Term	Lt Cathy Reed
2 Yr Term	Lt Barbara Dildine, AP,IN
3 Yr Term	P/C Larry Warren, AP
3 Yr Term	Lt Sam Hill

**AUDIT COMMITTEE**

1 Yr Term	Lt/C Sandi Carroll, SN
2 Yr Term	Lt Leah Hafterson, P
3 Yr Term	Lt Patti Ambrose

**RULES COMMITTEE**

1 Yr Term	Lt Melinda Mackey, S
2 Yr Term	Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S
3 Yr Term	<b>Vacant</b>

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

1 Yr Term	P/C Larry Warren, AP
2 Yr Term	P/C Mark Hafterson, AP
3 Yr Term	P/C Richard Mattox, AP

**EDUCATIONAL DEPT**

SEO	Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S
ASEO	Lt/C Sandi Carroll, SN

**ABC CHAIR**

P/C Lance(P) & Brenda(P) Williamson

**ELECTIVE COURSES**

**Vacant**

**ADVANCED GRADES CHAIR**

P/C Kevin Kennedy, SN

**BRIDGE OFFICERS**

Commander  
Cdr Gary Dildine, AP-IN  
(253) 841-2838  
Executive Officer  
Lt/C Stan Wolfe, SN-CN  
(253) 536-3309  
Administrative Officer  
Vacant  
Educational Officer  
Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S  
(253) 566-8105  
Lt/C Sandi Carroll, SN  
Secretary  
Lt/C Beth Stone  
Treasurer  
Lt/C Aaron Strasser, S

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

P/C Richard Mattox, AP  
Lt Karen Jackson  
P/C Tim Craig, P  
Lt Cathy Reed  
P/C Larry Warren, AP  
Lt Barbara Dildine  
Lt Samuel Hill

**BOATING ACTIVITIES CHAIR**

Chm Lt Cindy Warren, AP  
360-897-8692 Home  
l.m.warren-1@hotmail.com

**The Wake Astern**

Editor: Cdr Richard Mattox, AP  
(253) 581-1732  
ricque0602@comcast.net

**SHIPS STORE**

P/C Tim Craig, P, Stores  
Linda Craig, S, Clothing  
(253) 536-1222  
tlc861@comcast.net

**TPS WEBSITE**

www.tacomapowerandsailsquadron.org

**D/16 WEBSITE**

www.uspsd16.org

Cover photo by  
Lt Cindy Warren, AP



**Lighthouse Marine, Inc.**

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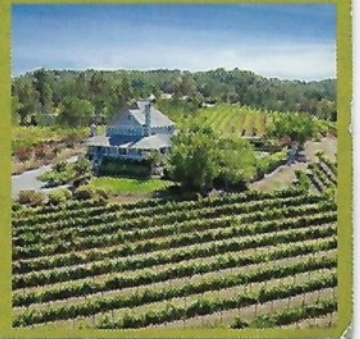
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# March 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <b>ABC Cls Via Zoom</b>	2	3	4 <b>AP Cls via Zoom</b>	5	6
7	8 <b>ABC Cls Via Zoom</b>	9 <b>Ex. Bd Mtg 7:00-9:00 PM via Zoom</b>	10	11 <b>AP Cls via Zoom</b>	12	13 <b>Dist 16 Change of Watch</b>
14	15 <b>ABC Cls Via Zoom</b>	16	17 <small>St. Patrick's Day</small>	18	19	20
21	22 <b>ABC Cls Via Zoom</b>	23 <b>Gen Mtg 7:00-9:00 PM via Zoom</b>	24 <b>Deadline for April edition The Wake Astern</b>	25	26	27
28	29 <b>ABC Cls Exam</b>	30	31			



March 2021

# Tacoma & South Puget Sound



## April 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 Ex. Bd Mtg 7:00-9:00 PM via Zoom	14	15	16	17
18 Daffodil Boat Parade	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 Gen Mtg Change of Watch 7:00-9:00 PM via Zoom	28 Deadline for May Edition The Wake Astern	29	30	

TACOMA POWER SQUADRON  
P.O. BOX 45121  
TACOMA WA 98448-0121



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**MARCH 2021**

