

**AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB** 

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

**The  
Wake Astern**

**April 2025**

**Monthly Newsletter**

**Vol. 86 No. 4**





**COMMANDER**



**B**elieve it or not, I'm at a loss for words this month. Typically an idea makes itself know to me, but this month NOTHING. So I went looking for ideas. I found the following "Cold Water Boating" information on the "North American Safe Boating Campaign" website. Even with summer coming NW boaters are on COLD waters year around. I thought this was a timely reminder.

*P/D/C Craig Brown, SN-CN*

Note the 1-10-1 rule under "Stages of Cold Water Immersion". When you go into cold water you have 1 minute to get yourself under control, 10 minutes to get yourself out of the water, and 1 hour until you're unconscious. This is true in the water temperatures around the Pacific Northwest. Wearing a lifejacket will make a big difference. If you go into the water without wearing your lifejacket, you're going to be in trouble before you'll be able to get it on. So wear your lifejacket. I've already lost too many friends to drowning.

**COLD WATER BOATING**

Cold-water immersion is the cause of many boating-related fatalities. The danger increases as water temperature decreases below normal body temperature (98.6 degrees F).

**DOS AND DON'TS OF COLD WATER BOATING**

- Do make sure everyone is wearing a life jacket. Even experienced swimmers will experience shock within one minute in the frigid water and lose muscle control within 10 minutes.
- Do file a float plan with someone you trust that includes details about the trip, boat, persons, towing or trailer vehicle, communication equipment, and emergency contacts.
- Do dress properly for the weather, always wearing layers, and bring an extra set of clothes in case you get wet. Remember, dress for the water temperature, not the air temperature.
- Do use your navigation lights to alert other boaters to your presence in dark and/or foggy conditions.
- Do catch your breath. A sudden unexpected fall into cold water causes an involuntary gasp (or torso) reflex. It takes less than ½ cup of water in your lungs to drown. If you remain calm, you have a greater chance of self-rescue.
- Don't panic if you fall into the water. Stay afloat with the help of your life jacket, regain control of your breathing, and keep your head above water in vision of rescuers.

(Commander's Report continued on Page 3)

**CHANGE OF WATCH**  
**April 22nd, 2025 (6:00-8:30PM)**  
**Day Island Yacht Club**  
**University Place**  
\*\*\*\*\*  
**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**  
**April 8th, 2025 (6:00-8:00PM)**  
**Black Bear Diner**  
**Lakewood, WA**

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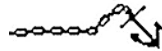


**(Commander's Report continued from Page 2)**

- Don't keep on heavy boots if you're in the water. Look for ways to increase your buoyancy. If you're in the water with others, huddle together with everyone facing inwards to help everyone stay afloat and keep warm.
- Don't apply heat to extremities like arms and legs of a rescued victim. This sudden change in temperature could cause cardiac arrest.

## STAGES OF COLD-WATER IMMERSION

- Cold shock. You have one minute to adjust to the cold shock response – don't panic.
- Swimming failure. You have 10-minutes of meaningful movement to get help and get out of the water.
- You have about one hour before you become unconscious from hypothermia.
- Post-rescue collapse. You “give up” and collapse after or right at the time of rescue.



**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**  
**P/D/C Craig Brown, SN-CN**  
**Email: [craig-sandybrown@msn.com](mailto:craig-sandybrown@msn.com)**  
**Phone: 253-350-4884**  
**Address: 4634 Kent Ct.**  
**Kent, WA 98032-7112**

P/D/C Craig Brown, SN-CN is our VSC Chairperson. He will also be taking requests for VSC supplies etc. as well as helping organize VSC team events that we may do.





*Lt/C Bob Hays, AP*

# ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT



Well, I am winding up my year as your Administration Officer.

First, I want to thank you for your patience and grace as I stumbled through this responsibility. Though I have over 25 years of experience in the US Coast Guard Auxiliary and had numerous areas of responsibility, it certainly did not prepare me for the many differences in leadership positions between that organization and this one.

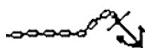
Just as I was beginning to figure out America's Boating Club and the responsibilities of the Administration Officer, I now find myself moving to the position and the responsibilities of your Executive Officer. This is made even more interesting by the fact that we currently have no Administrative Officer for next year.

I realize that many of you have filled a number of different leadership positions in the past, and might feel that you have "been there and done that" and it is time to take a break. But if this is the case, I am losing the opportunity to learn from you, and for the Squadron to benefit from your knowledge and experience. Yes, this is a volunteer organization, however, I believe that most, if not all of us joined because we wanted to learn and share. There is so much experience in this Squadron, and we all know that there are people not only outside our Squadron, but inside as well that can benefit from this experience. Please take a little time to think about all that you have gotten from this organization and identify ways that you can be involved in more ways than just showing up for a meeting. The experiences that you have had, the classes that you have taken have the potential to assist others, and perhaps save them from making bad decisions.

Many of you have boated for many years and have the knowledge gained from that. Places to go. Places not to go. What to do when the electronics quit. Sharing these experiences can benefit so many.

If we want this Squadron to continue, we need new blood. Who do you know that has a boat and needs to learn more about boating? Who do you know that enjoys being on the water, but does not have access to a boat? Who do you know that likes to teach and learn? Invite them to join us at a meeting. Encourage them to take an ABC Class (we have one starting on April 21st.) Historically boating classes have been one of the best sources for new members.

I believe that we would all like to see our Squadron continue, but it is up to each of us to find new members if we want this Squadron to carry on.





Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S  
Sq Education Officer

# EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT



This is my last article as Squadron Education Officer. I enjoyed this position and hope I have served well!

We have American's Boating Course, ABC, starting April 21 at Day Island Yacht Club at 7 pm for 4 weeks plus the exam on May 19th. If you know anyone who needs the Washington State Boater's Card this is the course they need. It is for all ages! Taking a boating class


reduces your risk of accidents and injuries, saves you money on boat insurance, and qualifies you for a state boat license or operator certificate in most states.

America's Boating Course is the most comprehensive, single source, in-person boating course available to give you the skills you need to enjoy your time on the water and boat with confidence. To register for this class, click the link below:

<https://americasboatingclub.org/index.php/find-a-class-near-you?zip=98467&range=20>

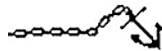
## Get Your New Member Benefit with Ditch Navigation

America's Boating Club | United States Power Squadrons is partnering with navigation app Ditch to provide members with the latest cutting-edge navigation technology. As part of this exclusive partnership, members will receive Ditch at no cost for one year, including Ditch navigation's unlimited route-planning features. Learn how to access your member benefit [here](#). You can find the promo code to unlock your free one-year subscription on the [member website](#).

Great tips! A well-tied cleat hitch keeps your boat secure—no drifting, no worries!  Whether you're docking or mooring, this simple but essential knot ensures stability. Not sure how to tie it? Follow these easy steps:

- 1  Wrap the rope under the cleat and pull it snug.
- 2  Cross the rope over the cleat, then loop it under the opposite arm.
- 3  Repeat the figure-eight pattern.
- 4  Lock it with a final tug.

Happy and safe boating!



**Tacoma Power Squadron  
Executive Board Meeting  
Black Bear Diner  
March 11, 2025**

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**Meeting called to order:** 19:07

**Quorum** - Yes

Correction to Executive Board Minutes of 2/11:

- Larry Warren as commander
- Ed Yotter as Ex-O

**VSC's:**

- We are insured to do Safety Checks on Vessels
- We have 9 VC's scheduled on March 9

**Admin Officer: Lt/C Bob Hays**

No report

**Education Report: Lt/C Bentley Rickmers**

**Class Schedules:**

- ABC Class starting 4/21 for 4 consecutive Mondays at Day Island Yacht Club
- Engine Maintenance pending

**Treasurer Report: P/R/C Jim Harden**

- Have not continued with the Tacoma Business License since we will not be selling items in the future
- Change of Watch - ordered flags
- Audit for the squadron will be completed In March.
- Budget:
  - Reviewed the budget for last year and submitted proposals for this year.
  - Didn't have as many classes or people joining.
  - No rendezvous scheduled for next year at this point.
  - Motion to forward on to general membership at the March meeting., 2nd. Passed.

• Treasury Report:

Ending Balance	\$XXXXXX
Savings Balance	\$XXXXXX
Certificate of Deposit	\$XXXXXX
Grand Balance Total	\$XXXXXX

•

(Exec Brd Minutes continued on Page 7)



(Exec Brd Minutes continued from Page 6)

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- The TPS will donate \$50 to the District 16 Rendezvous. Will be at Port Ludlow. Suggested that we could go to some businesses (i.e., West Marine, etc.) to see if they want to make a donation as well. The rendezvous will take place June 6 - 8. Can come by boat, car, or RV. Boater's have to call the marina individually.
- Dist 16 Conference - COW: We can have 6 delegates, Craig, Bob, Debbie and Jim, Jackie and Richard on March 29th at Port of Everett.
- TPS COW - District commander attending as a guest and will not need to pay for his dinner. However, we will need headcount by April 10th to give to the caterer. It will be at the Day Island Yacht Club on Tuesday, April 22nd. Asked Richard if they could send out the notification separate.
- Day Island wants to increase our rent. If we can get them to agree to a lower amount, we would stay. Jackie Mattox has been researching different venues as a possible change. The places will be presented at the next General Meeting to be voted on.
- Daffodil Parade - Ready for either boat - Suggestions is fishing pole, foul weather gear, someone with shorts, rain cloud balloon, crab pots,

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Navigator and Junior Navigator courses are going to be replaced by an Offshore Navigation Course. being 4 optional paths to get there. Will publish soon.
- Piloting is being replaced by Marine Navigation Course.
- There is also a Celestial Navigation Course.

**Meeting Adjourned** at 20:21

*America's Boating Club of  
1939 - Tacoma and South Puget Sound -2025  
Presents Our 86<sup>th</sup> Annual Change of Watch  
Day Island Yacht Club*

2120 91st Ave W Ste 1, Tacoma, WA 98466

*Tuesday, April 22<sup>th</sup> 2025*

*Social hour starts @ 6:00 PM Followed by Dinner @ 7:00 PM,*

*The Change of Watch will commence after dinner and dessert. BYOB (non-alcohol)*

*Chicken Piccata*

*Wild rice*

*Fresh Vegetables*

*Salad*

*Rolls / Butter*

*Cake*

*Dinner is \$24.00 per person*

*Reservations are required by April 10, 2025*

*Reservations may be made by filling out the form below and returning it with payment to:*



*Jim Harden  
55534 Wallaby Ct SE  
Lacey, WA 98503*

*Cell # (360) 870-5530*

*Please make payment out to: Tacoma Power Squadron*

*Names of attending Guests\_\_\_\_\_*

*Phone # ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Number of People attending\_\_\_\_\_ X \$24.00 per person*

*Total amount enclosed\_\_\_\_\_*

*Multi Attire or Blue Blazer Uniform*





## TACOMA POWER SQUADRON 2024 – 2025

Acting Commander	P/D/C Craig Brown, SN-CN
Executive Officer	<b>Vacant</b>
Administrative Officer	Lt/C Bob Hays, AP
Educational Officer	Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S
Secretary	Lt/C Beth Stone
Treasurer	Lt/C James Harden, JN-CN

### 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	<b>Vacant</b>
Safety Officer	<b>Vacant</b>
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	<b>Vacant</b>
Legislative	<b>Vacant</b>

### ADMINISTRATIVE DEPT

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

### SECRETARY DEPT

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

### TREASURER DEPT

Treasurer	Lt/C James Harden, JN-CN
Property Officer	<b>Vacant</b>
Ship's Store	<b>Vacant</b>

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

1 Yr Term	P/C Stan Wolfe
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
3 Yr Term	Lt Brian Prudente

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

### NOMINATION COMMITTEE

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

**NOTE:** Updates to reflect new Bridge and Board Officers, and Support Staff from April 22, 2025 to April 21, 2026 will be reflected in the May 2025 edition of The Wake Astern.

**BRIDGE OFFICERS**

Acting Commander  
P/D/C Craig Brown, SN-CN  
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**Vacant**  
Administrative Officer  
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Educational Officer  
Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S  
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Secretary  
Lt/C Beth Stone  
Email: [beth.stone@comcast.net](mailto:beth.stone@comcast.net)  
Treasurer  
Lt/C James Harden, JN-CN

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

P/C Stan Wolfe,  
Lt Debbie Wolfe  
P/C Gary Dildine, AP-IN  
Lt Barbara Dildine, AP-IN  
Lt Becky Arrington, S  
Lt Jeff Krueger  
Lt Brian Prudente

**BOATING ACTIVITIES CHAIR**

**Vacant**

***The Wake Astern***

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**SHIPS STORE**

**Vacant**

**TPS WEBSITE**

[www.tacomapowerandsailsquadron.org](http://www.tacomapowerandsailsquadron.org)

**D/16 WEBSITE**

[www.uspsd16.org](http://www.uspsd16.org)

Cover photo by  
Lt Cindy Warren, AP



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**Lytton Station Vineyard Vista**

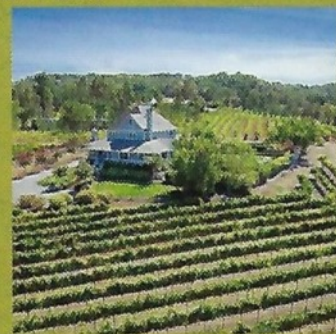
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# April 2025

Sun                  Mon                  Tue                  Wed                  Thu                  Fri                  Sat

1  
**Boat Hndlg  
Via Zoom**

2

3

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5

6

7

8  
**Ex.Bd Mtg  
6:00-8:00 PM  
@ Black Bear Diner  
Boat Hndlg  
Via Zoom**

9

10

11

12

**Daffodil Weekend  
@ TYC**

13

14

15  
**Boat Hndlg  
Via Zoom**

16

17

18

19

**Daffodil Week-  
end  
@ TYC**

20

21  
**ABC Cls  
@ DIYC**

22  
**Change of  
Watch  
6:00-8:30 PM  
@ DIYC  
Boat Hndlg  
Via Zoom**

23  
**Deadline for  
May edition  
The Wake Astern**

24

25

26

27

28  
**ABC Cls  
@ DIYC**

29  
**Boat Hndlg  
Via Zoom**

30

# May 2025

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



TACOMA POWER SQUADRON  
5105 Grand Loop, Apt 811  
TACOMA WA 98407-3196

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



**April 2025**

# **THE WAKE ASTERN**

A foggy day at Deception Pass

*(Winning Photo Contest by P/D/C Craig Brown, SN-CN)*