

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB 

Tacoma 
& South Puget Sound

**The
Wake Astern**

December 2024 Monthly Newsletter Vol. 85 No. 12





Cdr Larry Warren, AP

COMMANDER



I've been a Power Squadron member for over 25 years now. In those years I have learned many valuable things from many great teachers in the squadron, who have given their time selflessly to promote safe boating in and around the Puget Sound area. I've seen many volunteers come and go, some got out of boating, moved from the area, or possibly were burnt out from doing a thankless job. When I was asked to join, I participated with the hope that I could learn what it takes to use our boat safely and responsibly. After going through several classes, without paying boatloads of money, I might add, I began to feel a part of the squadron, and I wanted to give back what I felt was a gift of knowledge from some pretty special people. So, I started volunteering for small things at first, like helping with a rendezvous or attending public events to promote life jackets (PFDs).

(Commander's Report continued on Page 3)



**No
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
MEETING
This Month**

**No
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
This Month**

Contents

Crd Report Cont'	Page 3
XO Report/VSC	Page 4
AO Report	Page 5
SEO Report	Page 6
Gen Mtg Minutes	Page 7-8
Exec Brd Minutes	Page 8-10
2024-2025 TPS Organizational Roster	Page 11

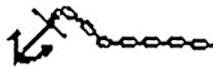


(Commander's Report continued from Page 2)

Over the years I was asked if I would like to help by becoming a bridge member. I wasn't sure I was ready for that much responsibility or if I had enough knowledge to do the job. However, I'd been on the board and somewhat knew how things worked in the squadron. So I said yes, I would. Since then, I've been through the bridge, more than once, plus a secretary's job, and, stepped into a few other positions. I've never regretted doing what I volunteered for. I've never been a good speaker or felt like I was doing a great job, but someone needed to do it and there weren't many people stepping up to volunteer. Over the years I've written several articles about helping the squadron, with little response. Let me tell you it's a tough job being on the Nominating Committee, and I've been on it a few times for sure. Oh, don't get me wrong, we've had and still have some Outstanding volunteers who don't know how to say no! Also, we have so many volunteers who have done that, been there, and don't want to do it again. But groups of people like us need to have new blood to step up. Although we get new members, not many stay to become long-term members and volunteers. I obviously don't know an answer to this problem. When I joined, I was proud to be asked and maybe that's why I've tried to help out. This year the nominating committee has just started their search to fill vacancies. My responsibilities as Cdr and on the nominating committee are to contact bridge members to see if they stay and or step up a position. I was disappointed to hear that no one wanted to move up. The exception being our education officer who has held the position for longer than expected. I personally want to thank her for that. So, I feel strongly that I've been useless in convincing people to join the team to keep the squadron strong and vibrant. Saying goodbye is hard and I regret letting you down, but I must go before there is no squadron. My hope is that you all can pull together and bring the squadron back to its former glory and provide a much-needed service to the boating public.

I want to thank those who have hung in there and contributed so much throughout these years. Thank you for making me feel like family and friends.

Sincerely,
Cdr Larry M. Warren, AP





Lt/C Edward Yotter, SN

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT



Mooring Buoys

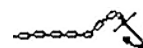
An article in Pacific Yachting^{REF} caught my eye and caused me to go huh, interesting. The title of the article was 'Can you tie up? Can you drop your own? Everything you need to know about mooring buoys in BC'^{REF}. Yeah, I know it applies to British Columbia and I don't know what Washington law has to say about it, but the answers to the questions gave me pause. The questions posed were:

'With so many mooring buoys in our bays, many of them unoccupied, what are the rules: 1) Is there a public right to install a mooring buoy? and 2) if there is, does the owner of the buoy have the exclusive right to use his or her buoy, or must it be shared with other boaters?'^{REF}

The answer to these questions is: it depends, yes and no, use common sense, don't trespass without permission. The Canadian Federal government regulates the right to navigation on navigable waters, and that right includes a right to anchor. But the right to anchor is only for a reasonable time and for a reasonable purpose. The provincial government administers the seabed and 'owns the land under the "inland seas" (such as the Juan de Fuca Strait, the Strait of Georgia, Johnstone Strait and Queen Charlotte Strait) and bays, as well as the foreshore between low and high tide.'^{REF} And further 'There is no such thing as "squatter's rights" in BC, so a private mooring buoy installed without provincial approval will be in trespass.'^{REF} The provincial court further specified that the right to navigation and anchoring be without interfering with the equal rights of others, which includes recreational boaters. Another buoy guideline is that buoys be marked with the name and phone number of the buoy's owner. Hence the obligation to contact the owner before using their buoy. If they don't answer the phone, you are on your own on what you decide to do.

The article does a much more thorough job of the laws and legalese. The bottom line along with it depends, yes and no, and common sense. I would add common courtesy that we as recreational boaters are known to exhibit. As you can see from the above narrative, I am still in the huh mode concerning mooring to an unused buoy unless it is obviously meant for public use. What we usually do is abort Plan A and go somewhere else. When in doubt don't, unless it is an emergency, then safety always comes first.

^{REF} verbatim from, Mooring Buoys, Pacific Yachting, 8/23/2021, by Ben van Drimmelen



Need a Vessel Safety Check?
It's Fast, It's Easy, and best of all,
IT'S FREE !!!



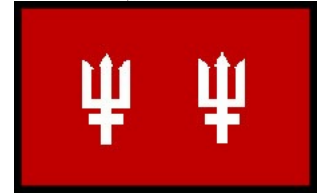
All you have to do is contact
P/D/C Craig Brown, SN-CN
Email: craig-sandybrown@msn.com
Phone: 253-350-4884
Address: 4634 Kent Ct.
Kent, WA 98032-7112

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,

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT



For me, December is a time for reflection on the past year. What has been accomplished, what projects were completed, what I learned and so much to be grateful for.

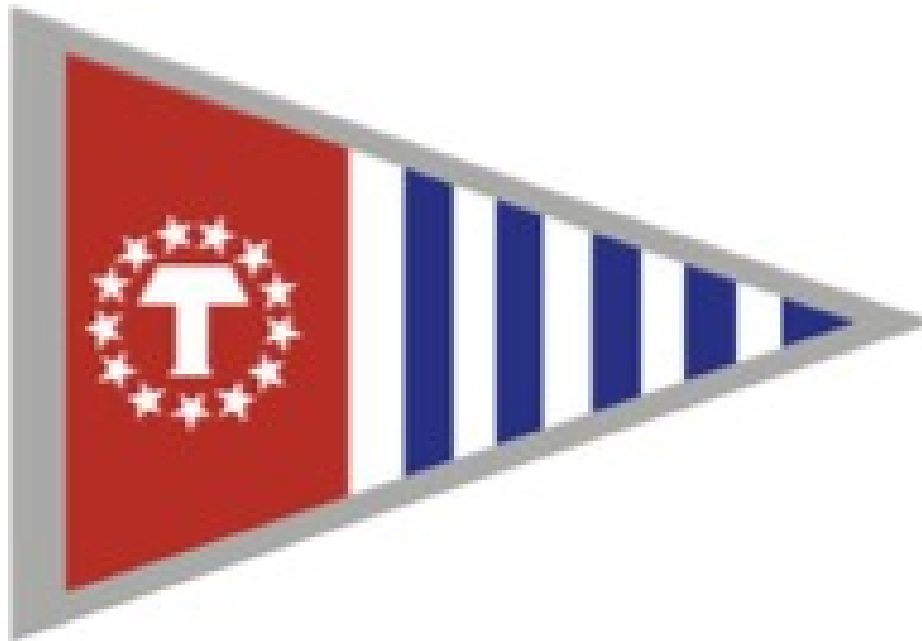
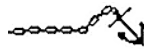
The other part of December is the planning for the year to come. By examining the past year, and my past and future goals, I establish my goals for the year to come.

With that being said, what about you?

What did you accomplish this year? What were your goals for 2024 and how did you do with them? What are the things that you have to be thankful for? They could be the simple things (a roof over your head, hot and cold running water) or more complex things to be thankful for. What did you learn this year? What did you share with others? What involvement did you have in the Power Squadron?

So, 2025 is around the corner. What do you want from 2025? What are your goals? Who do you want to help? What do you want to learn? Where do you want to go? What classes do you want to take? What would you like to accomplish or help with in the Power Squadron?

Your 2025 is a blank slate. You can take some time in December to outline your year to come. For it is said “A goal without a plan is just a dream.”





Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S
Sq Education Officer

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT



Currently we have Marine Navigation and Engine Maintenance going on via Zoom. We thought we were not going to be able to have in person classes since National lost our insurance coverage, but that issue has been resolved! Yeah!! Now to get on scheduling classes! Point Wilson Squadron will be offering Weather starting January 9, 2025, in person at Port Ludlow Yacht Club and via ZOOM. The class will be held on Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 PM and run through March 6th. In-person or Zoom presentations will be available. Exam is optional.

Don't let bad weather ruin your day! Understand the specifics of a forecast and anticipate how the weather will impact you. Learn about meteorological systems, how weather is created, and signs of impending poor or dangerous weather. Our newly revised weather course covers the profound changes in the ways weather forecasts are produced and disseminated including how supercomputers make forecasts more accurate and how boaters have many choices in getting them while onboard via internet, satellite communications, and smart phones.

What's included?

- What causes weather
- Why winds blow, fog forms and precipitation falls
- How storms form, behave and move
- What clouds can tell us
- How modern weather forecasts are produced
- How to get them using computers, smart phones, radios and satellite communications

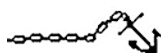
The cost is \$70 for e-book and \$77.50 for hard copy.

For more information and to pre-register click on the link below.

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

If you have questions regarding the Weather course, please contact Rob Hamilton rob_hamilton2000@yahoo.com.

Wishing you and yours happy holidays!!





**Tacoma Power Squadron
General Member Meeting
October 22, 2024**

Call to Order: 7:10 PM

Quorum: Yes

Executive Officer: Ed Yotter

Jim Harden reported on the Pittsburg Conference:

Main thing voted on was a housekeeping for changing the bylaws on when a squadron is dissolving and disbursements of assets.

IMIS - working on it and making breakthroughs. Americasboatingclub.com/portal and then sign in and put in a new id and pswd. We can still go in under the old system.

National Insurance - Chubb decided not to carry the national ABC anymore due to one squadron racking up high costs. The deadline is 12/1/24. This leaves ABC in a bad situation for liability for anything on the water or by volunteers. National has sent out a notice stating that they are having trouble to find a new insurance agency and have also asked for a 6 month extension with Chubb. We are asking for anyone to volunteer if they are an agent or lawyer to help if possible. One questions that was put forward was, "Does the national want us to postpone activities?" Question as to whether we will have the Christmas Party.

Safety Inspection: Craig Brown

They are working ON the Water and VSC's.

Secretary Report - Beth Stone

Nothing to report

Education Report: Bentley Rickmers

Class Schedules:

10/1 - Seattle PS: Engine Maintenance class via zoom with one class in person.... Mike Lacey will be the instructor

10/7 - ABC class at Day Island

10/10 - Piloting / Navigation Class via Zoom - Joined with Beaverton PS as a joint class

10/17 - Boat Handling with Beaverton PS via zoom

11/17 - VSC and Marine Radio - Free

Engine Maintenance in Feb

Merit Marks Report: Christine Rasmussen

Gave preliminary report to Larry, but not completed. Any volunteer's time is considered a merit mark. Asking everyone to contribute their time.

Treasurer - Jim Harden

No income from National this past month.

(General Mtg Minutes continued on Page 8)

(General Mtg Minutes continued from Page 7)

Cruise Account - propose that we close this account since very little activity. Roll it in the general account. Can always reestablish if more activity.

Report:

Balance	XXXXXX
Savings	XXXXXX
Cruise	XXXX
Cert of Deposit	<u>XXXX</u>
Total	<u>XXXXXX</u>

Thanks to everyone who helped out tonight.

OLD Business

NEW BUSINESS:

Membership Report - Haven't received from National. District membership stated Tacoma has 137 active members.

The annual Christmas Brunch will again be at the Tacoma Yacht Club this year. More information to follow.

Reports about 3rd party developer getting into our FaceBooks to help update it. Most squadrons initially didn't want the help, but have discovered that it is beneficial. Will be enhancing our pages for \$10,000 from National. Call or email to schedule time for us to help them.

Articles are due tomorrow for the Wake Astern

Craig Brown discussed personal emergency last month and proposed we offer classes in CPR - Larry will look into it with the local fire departments.

Adjourned at 7:53 PM

**Tacoma Power Squadron
Executive Board Meeting
November 12, 2024**

Quorum: Yes, 9 Board Members Present including:

Gary & Barb Dldine
Bentley Rickmers
Stan Wolf
Deb Wolf
Brian Prudente
Jeff Kruger
Larry Warren
Ed Yotter
Beth Stone

Bill Larson and Richard & Jackie Mattox as guests.

(Exec Brd Minutes continued on Page 9)



(Exec Brd Minutes continued from Page 8)

Approval of Minutes - Send out to everyone. Not approved.

OFFICERS REPORTS:

Executive Officer: Lt/C Ed Yotter

Larry Warren mailed his letter of resignation and will be resigning at the end of Nov. His time serving has been greatly appreciated by all.

Admin Officer: Lt/C Bob Hays

No report

Education Report: Lt/C Bentley Rickmers

Class Schedules:

Education meeting - can't hold classes if insurance is not in place. We are able to conduct on the water training and ship inspections. A question came up as if we do classes on the boat since it's not on the water - is it OK?

People are taking Advanced Navigation. SEOs discussed splitting Marine Navigation and Advanced Navigation into seminars so students could pick and choose which subjects they would like to take instead of the full 8 or 10 weeks. Nothing confirmed as yet.

Treasurer Report: P/R/C Jim Harden

Ending Balance	XXXXXX
Savings Balance	XXXXXX
Cruise Account	XXXXXX
Certificate of Deposit	XXXXXX
Grand Balance Total	XXXXXX

CD is maturing this month on 28th. We can reinvest it in another CD for 4%. Moved and 2nd. Approved.

Since we're not cruising as we used to do, Jim suggested to take the XXXX and roll over into saving. We can write checks from the general account for cruises. Moved, 2nd, and approved.

Commander - Cdr. Larry Warren

Christmas Brunch - filled out paperwork and estimated for 40 people. The problem is that the general meeting 2 days before Thanksgiving and then 2 days after for the brunch. They need 10 days. Did not sign us up for the bar. Feel that because it's the middle of the day, we don't need a bar. We don't need audio (microphone). Price will be \$1,040 for 40 people.

Battery is dying in the storage unit. It's 10+ years old. \$277+ to replace battery. Moved and approved.

Merit Marks - 46 submitted, 43 approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Insurance...National has not gotten any insurance yet. They are working on it. Advise us to continue to do some things since we will still have coverage for on the water. Trying to find new insurance, but will not be covered by 12/1. We would have to hire an attorney. We can buy our own insurance. Maybe the District could buy it for our area.

4 pictures to pick one to give a prize of a gift card. Picture #2 - Craig Brown is the winner. Picture will be in the next Wake Astern.

(Exec Brd Minutes continued on Page 10)

(Exec Brd Mintues continued from Page 9)

NEW BUSINESS:

Nominating committee: Jim has filled 11 positions so far. Still need a commander, education, secretary, etc. If people don't step up, we will end up folding.

This is Larry's last day. He won't be at the Christmas Party. Too much personal items in Richland, so cannot be on the west side. He will help out until April, via Zoom.

Cruising is down. Competition from other clubs is high. A 3rd of our club are life members, so we need fresh blood. There are a lot more clubs offering education as well. Many of them are hands on classes.

Adjourned at 8:02 PM





**TACOMA POWER SQUADRON
2024 – 2025**

Commander	Cdr Larry Warren, AP
Executive Officer	Lt/C Edward Yotter, SN
Administrative Officer	Lt/C Bob Hays
Educational Officer	Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S
Secretary	Lt/C Beth Stone
Asst 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	Lt/C Edward Yotter, SN
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/C Bob Hays
Boating Activities	Vacant
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	Vacant
Commencement Bay	P/C Jackie Mattox, AP

TREASURER DEPT

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

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

1Yr Term	Cdr Larry Warren, AP
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

Commander
Cdr Larry Warren, AP
(206) 571-3099
Executive Officer
Lt/C Ed Yotter
Email: yboat@earthlink.net
Administrative Officer
Lt/C Bob Hays
Email: captn.bob.hays@gmail.com
Educational Officer
Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S
Email: benric7@gmail.com
Secretary
Lt/C Beth Stone
Email: 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

Editor: P/C Richard Mattox, AP
(253) 732-2264
ricque0602@comcast.net

SHIPS STORE

Vacant

TPS WEBSITE

www.tacomapowerandsailsquadron.org

D/16 WEBSITE

www.uspsd16.org

Cover photo by
Lt Cindy Warren, AP



MICHAEL MARCHETTI
Owner

MOORAGE • YACHT SALES • SERVICE

5603 N. Waterfront Drive Tacoma, WA 98407
(253) 752-6663 CELL (253) 381-2173 FAX (253) 752-8291
michael@breakwatermarina.com

Lytton Station Vineyard Vista

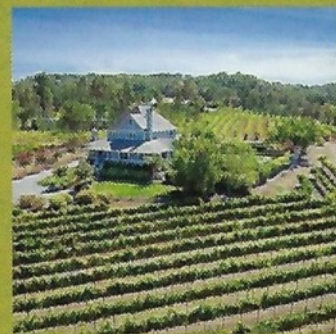
In the heart of Alexander Valley

Vacation Rental
360 degree vineyard views

4 Bedroom 3.5 baths
Pool, spa, game room, amazing kitchen

+1 707.433.1984

info@vineyardvista.com
http://vineyardvista.com



Lighthouse Marine Gig Harbor, LLC

www.lighthousemarine.net
lhmlcigig Harbor@gmail.com

5926 Sehmal Dr. Suite A
Gig Harbor, WA 98332
253 858-7280 or 253 858-8160
fax: 253 858-8162

Authorized Dealers
MERCURY • YAMAHA • EVINRUDE
MERCUISER • VOLVO



**Ken Jacobsen
Electronics**

REPAIRS • INSTALLATION • MAINTENANCE

5603 N. Waterfront Drive (Pt. Defiance) • Tacoma, WA 98407
Service (253) 752-6685 • Cell (253) 606-8246
JandG@breakwatermarina.com

The Wake Astern is the official monthly publication of the Tacoma Power Squadron. Articles, opinions and advertisements expressed herein do not necessarily reflect policies of The Tacoma Power Squadron or United States Power Squadrons® unless so designated. The editor reserves the right to edit and modify materials submitted for publication and to publish such materials in a style which best serves the needs of USPS, TPS and **The Wake Astern**.



December 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Christmas Brunch @ TYC	2	3	4	5 Marine Navigation via Zoom	6	7
8	9	10 No Exec Brd Mtg this month	11	12 Marine Navigation via Zoom	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 No General Meeting this month	25 <small>Christmas Day</small>	26 <small>Boxing Day</small> Deadline for January edition The Wake Astern	27	28
29	30	31				

January 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 <small>New Year's Day</small>	2	3	4
5	6	7 Ex.Bd Mtg 6:00-8:00 PM TBD	8	9 Weather Cls via Zoom	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 Weather Cls via Zoom	17	18
19	20	21 Gen Mtg 6:30-8:30 PM @ DIYC	22 Deadline for February edition The Wake Astern	23 Weather Cls via Zoom	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 Weather Cls via Zoom	31	

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



December 2024

THE WAKE ASTERN

A foggy day at Deception Pass

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