

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB 

Tacoma 
& South Puget Sound

**The
Wake Astern**

February 2025

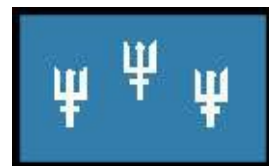
Monthly Newsletter

Vol. 86 No. 2





COMMANDER



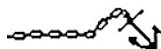
Hi from your “Acting” Squadron Commander. The Tacoma Power Squadron Board appointed me to be your “Acting” Squadron Commander until the Change-of-Watch in April. I have no plans to change anything since we’re so close to April. I’ll be filling the Commander position representing TPS.

P/D/C Craig Brown, SN-CN

Who am I you wonder, if you don’t already know. I grew up, in the PNW, around & playing with many types & sizes of boats. I blame my grandpa for getting me addicted to an expensive habit called boating (I’m now doing that with my three Granddaughters). Through growing up and young adulthood I had wonderful boating instructors and mentors. I thoroughly enjoy doing basically anything that involves boats & water.

With time I realized I needed to pay it forward my skills and knowledge to make it safer & fun for others to enjoy boating. I joined the US Coast Guard Auxiliary to begin paying it forward. My introduction to the US Power Squadrons began in 2000. I was asked to be the Train-the-Trainers for getting the first of the USPS members qualified as Vessel Examiners. I then began to represent the USCG at local USPS meetings. With time I decided I should join USPS. I joined Poverty Bay SPS. Shortly I was moving through the Chairs becoming the Squadron Commander. I then worked my way through the District Chairs becoming the District Commander. When Poverty Bay folded, I transferred to Tacoma.

I look working for and with you. Please continue to promote the USPS/America’s Boating Club. I encourage all members to actively support our Squadron.



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
February 25th, 2025 (6:30-8:30PM)
Day Island Yacht Club
University Place

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
February 11th, 2025 (6:00-8:00PM)
Black Bear Diner
Lakewood, WA

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Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, Sq Education Officer

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT



What is a Boating Safety Course?

Boating offers a unique opportunity to experience the beauty and freedom of the water, but it comes with a responsibility to ensure safety for yourself, your passengers, and others. That's why [America's Boating Club | United States Power Squadrons](#) is dedicated to providing comprehensive boating safety courses. These courses are designed to equip you with essential skills, such as boat handling, marine navigation, and marine communications, ensuring every outing is enjoyable and secure. With a legacy of fostering safe boating practices, we are here to help you become a more skilled and confident boater.

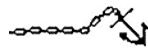
America's Boating Club of Tacoma and South Puget Sound will be offering a Boating Safety Course starting April 21 at Day Island Yacht Club. The course will be 4 Mondays, 7-9 pm plus the fifth evening for the exam. We are also planning one with Des Moines Park and Rec. Passing this course qualifies you for the Washington State Boater's Card. If you know anyone who needs this class, please pass on the information.

The next course after the safety course is Boating Handling. The Club in Friday Harbor is offering this class via Zoom starting March 18. The cost for members is \$75.

I hope to have an Engine Maintenance and/or Marine Electrical Systems course if there is enough interest. Let me know if you are interested in either course.

For more information and to register for the classes mentioned above click on this link:

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



Need a Vessel Safety Check?
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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.

**Tacoma Power Squadron
Executive Board Meeting
January 14, 2025**

Quorum: Yes, Board Members Present including:

Gary & Barb Dldine
Bentley Rickmers
Stan & Deb Wolf
Bob Hayes
Jim Harden
Brian Prudente
Jeff Kruger
Beth Stone

Guests: Richard & Jackie Mattox, Barbara Prudente, Craig Brown

Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm

Approval of Minutes - Approved

OFFICERS REPORTS:

Due to Bob Hays, not being able to continue as the Commander, the Board voted to appoint Craig Brown as the "acting Squadron Commander" until the next election.

Executive Officer:

No report

Admin Officer: Lt/C Bob Hays

No report

Education Report: Lt/C Bentley Rickmers

Class Schedules:

Marine Navigation Class - 2 people - combined class with Beaverton, OR squad.

Instructor will teach Engine Maintenance or Marine Electrical Systems

ABC Class possible.

Trying to do a class with Des Moines Park and Recreation

Boat Handling class possible

(Exec Brd Minutes continued on Page 5)



(Exec Brd Mintues continued from Page 4)

Treasurer Report: P/R/C Jim Harden

Will present budget in March since he won't be here in February.

For yearly dues, Tacoma Squad get \$32 per family and \$21 for a single membership for our share. We don't get anything from Life Members.

Found out that 2/3 of membership for National are Lifetime members, so organization is in danger of losing money.

Financial Statement Attached with email

Commander - Cdr. Craig Brown

No report

OLD BUSINESS:

Insurance...National says we have insurance, but that it is the boat owners responsibility which we can't cover. Please refer to January 2025 Wake Astern for details.

Safety Checks - Did Larry receive the safety decals, coming in the mail? Asked him to watch for them and forward them on to Craig. Day Island on 3/8 - until noon - Safety Checks

How are we going to keep the Tacoma Squad growing? Craig was trying to figure out how to proceed. An option is to appoint Craig as acting commander the remainder of the year. He is also been appointed to Commander in the Coast Guard at the same time. Will be very busy, so will need help. Board voted and approved his appointment.

Nomination Committee - looking for a secretary. Rules committee OK, Financial review approved. Executive board has 2 spots open. We have to have our slate ready by 2 weeks from tonight. May send out a blast to request for a Secretary.

NEW BUSINESS:

Storage Locker - Stan Wolf sent out an email. The storage is expensive. Paying for 4 x 4 racks that go up 12 feet. Years ago, looked for a metal sexton. Nobody knew who had them. As a result we got a central storage unit. Options we have are on the email he sent out this week. Increase dues to offset costs, but has to be done by February. Jackie, Jim, and Craig volunteered to help clean it out. Will do it the 2nd half of the month. Proposed to inventory and determine how to reduce volume and as a result reduce storage size and costs.

Anyone make reservations for Christmas Party for next year.? 1st Sunday in December. Stan will make reservation.

No report on Sunshine.

Next general meeting. Program for Daffodil at meeting. 1/28 at Day Island - Pot Luck. Next board is 2/11 at Black Bear.

Will use Stone's boat for Daffodil parade on April 13th.

Craig does not have access to be able to make updates for OD1.

Adjourned at 8:21 PM

Storage Area Cleanup and Move

P/C Stan Wolfe, JN-CN

As a result of discussions during the January Executive Board meeting, several members gathered at Daffodil Storage on three occasions to inventory, dispose and transfer TPS property stored there. We had rented a larger storage area a few years back in anticipation of receiving property from the two former south Sound clubs, Olympia and Poverty Bay. Property acquired did not fill the larger locker so the board determined downsizing would save a significant amount of money.

On Sunday, January 26th, Debbie and Stan Wolfe, Jackie and Richard Mattox, Jim Harden, Craig Brown, Brian Prudente, and Mason Dixon met at our 10ft by 10ft locker. For the next two hours, we pulled out, inspected, and determined items to be disposed or donated. We organized the remaining items for a proposed move to occur shortly in the future. Brian Prudente accepted some items for long-term storage that we determined would not be used for some time but would be expensive to replace if liquidated. Jim Harden began disassembly of one of the two storage racks, but ran out of time.

The next day, Debbie and Stan Wolfe returned to complete disassembly of the first rack. Combined efforts of both days confirmed that TPS could downsize our 10ft by 10ft storage locker into a 5ft by 5ft area using the remaining rack.

On Saturday, February 1, Debbie and Stan Wolfe and Jackie and Richard Mattox met once again to complete the move to a smaller storage area. The first 5ft by 5ft locker was not compatible with our storage rack so Jackie worked with the on-site manager to find a more suitable locker.

Within the locker, we re-assembled one of the racks having four shelves each 12 square feet, with the highest one at eight feet above the floor. The shelving provides 48 square feet of storage with room for our daffodil decorations, educational materials, training aids, sextants, and records of financial, secretarial, and historical importance. After moving all the items, we disassembled the remaining rack and had Brian Prudente drive over and move that rack to his off-site location.



Tacoma Power Squadron Slate of Officers 2025
January 28, 2025

To Be Elected:

Commander	Craig	Brown	To Be Elected
Executive Officer	Bob	Hays	To Be Elected
Administrative Officer		Vacant	To Be Elected
Education Officer	Scott	MacLeod	To Be Elected
Assistant Education Officer	Bentley	Rickmers	To Be Elected
Secretary	Beth	Stone	To Be Elected
Treasurer	Jim	Harden	To Be Elected
Executive Board IPC	Jackie	Mattox	To Be Elected
Executive Board	Becky	Arrington	To Be Elected
Executive Board	Gary	Dildine	To Be Elected
Executive Board	Barbara	Dildine	To Be Elected
Executive Board	Jeff	Krueger	To Be Elected
Executive Board	Brian	Prudente	To Be Elected
Executive Board	Debbie	Harden	To Be Elected
Financial Review Committee 3yr (Chairperson)	Leah	Hafterson	To Be Elected
Financial Review Committee 2yr	Tom	Ferree	To Be Elected
Financial Review Committee 1yr	Becky	Arrington	To Be Elected
Nomination Committee 3yr (Chairperson)	Jim	Harden	To Be Elected
Nomination Committee 2yr		Vacant	To Be Elected
Nomination Committee 1yr		Vacant	To Be Elected
Rules Committee 3yr	Bill	Larsen	To Be Elected
Rules Committee 2yr	Mitch	Carroll	To Be Elected
Rules Committee 1yr	Lorraine	Stargel	To Be Elected

To Be Appointed:

Sunshine Chairperson	Leslie	Burton	Lt
Flag Lieutenant	Mason	Dixon	F/Lt
Webmaster	Tom	Ferree	Lt
Basic Boating Chairperson	Scott	MacLeod	Lt
Wake Astern Newsletter Publisher	Richard	Mattox	Lt
Membership and Membership Involvement Chairperson	Jackie	Mattox	Lt
Programs Chairperson	Barbara	Prudente	Lt
Merit Marks Chairperson	Christine	Rasmussen	Lt
Galley Chairperson	Lorraine	Stargel	Lt
Radio Technical Chairperson	Andrew	Temple	Lt
Vessel Safety Chairperson	Craig	Brown	Lt
Operations Training Chairperson	Stan	Wolfe	Lt
Legislative Coordinator	Jim	Harden	Lt/C
Cooperative Charting Chairperson	Jim	Harden	Lt/C
Advanced Grades Chairperson		VACANT	
Boating Activities Chairperson		VACANT	
Safety Officer		VACANT	
Property Officer		VACANT	
Ship's Store		VACANT	
Boat Show Coordinator		VACANT	
Historian		VACANT	

Respectively submitted by:

P/C Jim Harden, JN-CN

P/C Stan Wolfe, SN-CN



TACOMA POWER SQUADRON
2024 – 2025

Acting Commander	P/D/C Craig Brown, SN-CN
Executive Officer	Vacant
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	Vacant
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 Programs	P/C Stan Wolfe, SN-CN 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

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

Acting Commander
P/D/C Craig Brown, SN-CN
Email: craig-sandybrown@msm.com
Executive Officer
Vacant
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



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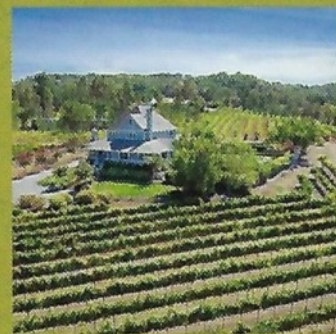
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February 2025

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

March 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 Ex.Bd Mtg 6:00-8:00 PM @ Black Bear Diner	12	13	14	15
16	17 <small>St. Patrick's Day</small>	18 Boat Hndlg Via Zoom	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 Gen Mtg 6:30-8:30 PM @ DIYC Boat Hndlg Via Zoom	26 Deadline for April edition The Wake Astern	27	28	29
30	31					

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



February 2025

THE WAKE ASTERN

A foggy day at Deception Pass

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