



The Wake Astern

June 2025

Monthly Newsletter

Vol. 86 No. 6











Always Prepared

While watching the news video about the two sailors that went overboard during a sailboat race off of Edmonds I was again reminded about always having the correct equipment to be prepared for anything. When I did my Boat Operator Certification skills demonstration for "Advance Coastal Navigator" I had

to demonstrate having the correct skills to be prepared for anything.

There are several wonderful electronic versions of compasses available. Depending on how much money you want to spend and space on your boat you could have Fluxgate compass, Gyrocompass, and/or GPS compass. The "Mariner's Compass" seminar says these electrical dependent compasses are "excellent when installed in addition to a magnetic compass – but not instead of a magnetic compass". This statement not only applies to the compass, but applies across the board for all navigational safety gear.

There are many wonderful types of electronic navigation equipment. Your boat may have GPS with navigational software suite and radar. These make navigation easier than the traditional piloting methods. But what do you do when you're navigating in low visibility in an area you're not familiar with and the equipment fails. And don't kid yourself it will (and don't count on electronic backups), and I can provide several cases where everything electronic quit working.

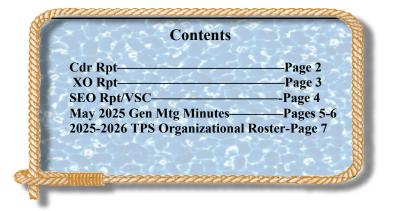
Do you have reasonably current charts of the area, plotting tools, and the piloting skills to plot a course route, determine conversions from True heading to Magnetic/Compass heading, and Speed/Time/Distance calculations? Do you have a non-electronic method to determine your speed through the water? Do you have non-electronic methods to determine the tidal height and currents?

These are powerful and important skills and knowledge our excellent Education Department team can help you acquire. There are many classes available: Seamanship, Piloting, Advanced Piloting, Cruise Planning, and Marine Electronics as examples. Check your squadron's education schedule for this coming year for classes & when/where they're offered. Check with other squadrons about additional opportunities (including joint teaching). And why not share these skills with the boating public by helping teach.



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
MEETINGS
HELD
SEPTEMBER THRU MAY ONLY

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
HELD ON
AS NEEDED BASIS







EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT



Lt/C Bob Hays, AP

T or those of you that did not attend the last meeting, before our summer break, you missed a lot! I want to encourage you to join us at the meetings, not only for the information that is shared, but for the opportunity to meet with your fellow members. It is an amazing chance to share experiences, get questions answered and be a part of this amazing organization.

In the May Meeting Craig Brown showed a video on how two boaters went into the water on Puget Sound and survived due to their wearing of life jackets and the efforts of boaters in the area. It reinforced the importance of one of the main reasons we exist. One of our most critical missions is to educate people on water safety and boating knowledge. We continue to do that work, as reflected in the ABC Class that our Squadron just completed.

Another way that we make a difference in the area of boating safety is through our VE Program. Craig reminded us that there is a VE Workshop available this year. For those of us that give vessel safety checks, it is important to be aware of changes in the program so that we can best assist and educate boat owners on their vessels, safety requirements and bits of knowledge that can assist them.

During the meeting James Harden went over the Cooperative Charting Program and how easy it is to take part of this important civic service and fun activity. As a reminder, this program is made up of three activities. They are Nautical Surveys (e.g. ATONs and Bridges), Marina Surveys, and Geodetic Marker Recoveries. One place that you can get more information on this important program is at website

https://www.usps.org/?type=article&id=386https://www.usps.org/?type=article&id. Also, you can just search the internet for US Power Squadron Coop Charting. This is an activity that we can all take part in that not only a public service, but an chance to get out and see new areas. After each activity by a member or group of members, a report is submitted to the USPS/ABC National Cooperative Charting Committee for approval and the awarding of credits to those participating. At year-end, national and district recognition is awarded to individuals, squadrons, and districts for their achievements.

There is something for everyone, and the time spent on these activities can contribute toward earning a Merit Mark. Have questions? Reach out to James for the answers.

Other things that came up in the May Meeting included some events that will be happening later in the year that you want to get on your calendar.

The tentative date for the Salmon Bake is September 20th.

Our next Squadron Meeting, ending our summer break will be on September 23rd

The Squadron's Annual Christmas Party, with a surprise Santa will be on December 7th.

I look forward to seeing you all at our September Meeting.







EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT



It's been a fun spring but now it's time for some serious boating. After finishing up an amazing ABC course my attention has transitioned to a couple June weddings in California that my wife has obligated us to. We loaded up the car and took off June 1st and won't return to reality (i.e. Washington) until June 22. We have a couple days to unpack and load our boat for a couple months in the Broughtons. It's a hectic schedule...

During my down minutes I'll be mapping out our fall course schedule. For sure we need another ABC course and two or three more advanced courses. I don't know what they'll be yet but I'll be looking back through what Bentley has arranged over the years and continuing the theme. For you instructors you should look for an email soon to see if I can grab a few days of your lives to teach these courses. I hope you all have a great summer and we'll see you again this fall.

Cheers









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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.



Minutes of the Tacoma Power Squadron General Meeting Held at Day Island Yacht Club 2190 91st Ave. W., WA May 27th, 2025

Bridge Members:

Commander: Cdr Craig Brown, SN-CN Executive Officer: Lt/C Bob Hays, AP

Administrative Officer: Vacant

Treasurer: Lt/C James Harden, Jr, JN-CN

Secretary: Lt/C Beth Stone, AP

Educational Officer: Lt/C Scott MacLeod, P

Call to Order: 1921 24 members in attendance

Review of minutes: Minutes were not available for review.

Program:

Craig Brown presented a video of 2 sailors rescued in Puget Sound after going overboard in a race. Emphasized their use of safety equipment resulting in a successful rescue. Craig commented on the importance of the mission of Power Squadrons to teach boating safety classes.

New Executive Officer: Bob Hays, AP was sworn in as the Executive Officer

Officer's Report

Executive Officer: Lt/C Bob Hays, AP

VSC: Crag Brown reported that he cannot order more decals until we have used at least half of decals received. We have used only 96 of 255. 14 VSCs were completed at Quarter Master Yacht Club on May 10, 2025. He is also trying to get more 7012 forms. The Coast Guard is out of the forms and more have been ordered.

Coop Charting: Jim Harden reported that we have 4 people with participation awards for coop charting. 7 people have turned in at least one coop charting report to qualify the squadron for Honor Roll at national. Jim will take people out at Port Ludlow D16 Rendezvous to look for markers.

Secretary:

No report. Absent

(General Mtg Minutes continued on Page 6)





(General Mtg Minutes continued from Page 5)

Treasurer: Lt/C Jim Harden, JN-CN

Operating \$ XXXXX Savings \$ XXXXX CD \$ XXXXX Total \$ XXXXXX

Educational Officer: Lt/C Scott MacLeod, P

There were 12 students in the April ABC class at DIYC. All passed.

Looking for more instructors. Jim Harden will work with anyone wanting to be certified to teach

Commander: Cdr Craig Brown, SN-CN

OD2 needs to be updated with new bridge members.

Old Business:

We have a float coat for the raffle donation at D16 rendezvous.

New Business:

Next meeting will be the Past Commander BBQ September 23, 2025 at DIYC

Other Business:

Wake Astern article due to Richard Mattox tomorrow.

Meeting Adjourned 1955



TACOMA POWER SQUADRON 2025 - 2026

Commander Cdr Craig Brown, SN-CN Lt/C Bob Hays, AP **Executive Officer**

Administrative Officer Vacant

Educational Officer Lt/C Scott Macleod, P **Asst Education Officer** Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S

Lt/C Beth Stone Secretary

Lt/C James Harden, JN-CN Treasurer

COMMANDER'S DEPT

EXECUTIVE BOARD

riag Lt	Lt Mason Dixon		
Sunshine	Lt Leslie Burton, S	1 Yr Term	P/C Gary Dildine, AP-IN
Merit Mark	P/D/C Christine Rasmussen, SN	1 Yr Term	Lt Barbara Dildine, AP-IN
Galley Manager	Lt Lorraine Stargel, AP	2 Yr Term	Lt Jeff Krueger, S
		2 Yr Term	Lt Becky Arrington, S

EXECUTIVE DEPT Lt Brian Prudente 2 Yr Term **Executive Officer** Lt/C Bob Hays, AP 3 Yr Term Lt Debbie Harden

Safety Officer Vacant 3 Yr Term P/C Jackie Mattox, AP

Coop Charting P/D/C James Harden, JN-CN FINANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE

3 Yr Term

1 Yr Term

2 Yr Term

3 Yr Term

VSC Chairperson P/D/C Craig Brown, SN-CN 1 Yr Term Lt Leah Hafterson, AP Radio Tech P/C Andy Temple, AP 2 Yr Term Lt Becky Arrington, S

Vacant Legislative P/D/C James Harden, JN-CN

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPT

Boat Show

RULES COMMITTEE Administrative Officer Vacant 1 Yr Term P/C Bill Larsen, AP **Boating Activities** Vacant 2 Yr Term P/C Mitch Carroll, SN Membership P/C Jackie Mattox, AP 3 Yr Term Lt Lorraine Stargel, AP

Membership Involvement P/C Jackie Mattox, AP **Operations Training** P/C Stan Wolfe, SN-CN Programs Lt Barbara Prudente

SECRETARY DEPT

Lt/C Beth Stone Secretary Web Master Lt Tom Ferree, JN Newsletter P/C Richard Mattox, AP

Vacant Historian

P/C Jackie Mattox, AP Commencement Bay

TREASURER DEPT

Treasurer Lt/C James Harden, JN-CN

Property Officer Vacant Ship's Store Vacant

EDUCATION DEPT

Vacant

Vacant

Lt/C Lt/C Scott Macleod, P

Lt Tom Ferree, JN

NOMINATION COMMITTEE

ABC CHAIRPERSON

Lt/C Scott MacLeod, P

ELECTIVE COURSES CHAIRPERSON

P/D/C James Harden, JN-CN

Vacant

ADVANCED GRADES CHAIRPERSON

Vacant

BRIDGE OFFICERS

Commander

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

Lt/C Bob Hays, AP

Email: captn.bob.hays@gmail.com Administrative Officer

Vacant

Educational Officer

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Asst Education Officer Lt/C Bentley Ricckmers, S Email: benric7@gmail.com

Secretary

Lt/C Beth Stone

Email: beth.stone@comcast.net

Treasurer

Lt/C James Harden, JN-CN

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P/C Gary Dildine, AP-IN

Lt Barbara Dildine, AP-IN

Lt Becky Arrington, S

Lt Jeff Krueger

Lt Brian Prudente Lt Debbie Harden

P/C Jackie Mattox, AP

BOATING ACTIVITIES CHAIR

Vacant

The Wake Astern

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Vacant

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www.tacomapowerandsailsquadron.org

D/16 WEBSITE

www.uspsd16.org

Cover photo by Lt Cindy Warren, AP



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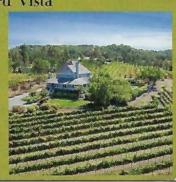
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June 2025

S	M	Т	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 J ı	10 No Exec Brd Mtg ine thru August	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23 G Ji	24 No General Meeting une thru August	25 Deadline for July edition The Wake Astern	26	27	28
29	30					



July 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4 Independence Day	5
6	Bı	8 o Exec rd Mtg hru August	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Gener June th	22 No D al Meeting Au hru August The	23 eadline for gust edition Wake Astern	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



June 2025

THE WAKE ASTERN

A foggy day at Deception Pass
(Winning Photo Contest by P/D/C Craig Brown, SN-CN)