

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB 

Tacoma 
& South Puget Sound

**The
Wake Astern**

May 2025

Monthly Newsletter

Vol. 86 No. 5



COMMANDER



Cdr Craig Brown, SN-CN

Some are aware I'm a maritime historian and collector. And I love a good sea story. Here is a short historical sea story involving Tacoma Power Squadron.

I decided to share this after noticing Tacoma Yacht Club's (TYC) signal cannon was donated to TYC by the Tacoma Power Squadron (TPS) in June of 1973. I noticed this cannon and donation plaque while attending TYC's Daffodil Marine Festival. It reminded me that there is a long historical connection between TYC and TPS of sharing Partner[ship], Outreach, and Knowledge.

In 1939 Robert Bourdon served as the Commodore of the Tacoma Yacht Club. It is said that Bourdon had access to USPS literature and was sufficiently impressed by the literature to begin a squadron.

On August 22, 1939, the "Tacoma Power Squadron" was granted it's "Local Squadron Charter". The Charter was signed by the USPS Chief Commander, Arthur Middleton, N. The charter members were Victor E. England, Albert L. Hale Jr, Charles G. Martin, Ralph N. Peterson, Clyde M. Hunt, I. J. Leonard, Theodore E. Worthington, R. [Robert] C. Bourdon, Bert Bradley, E. C. Cooney, and Lorenzo Mansfield. All TPS charter members were members of TYC. The Tacoma Power Squadron was the first squadron on the Pacific coast.

Bourdon promoted the chartering of TPS and served as TPS's first Commander. Martin was elected the Vice-Commander & Hunt the Secretary/Treasurer.

During World War II, Robert Bourdon served countless hours on patrol duty and as the Vice Commander in Flotilla 41 [Tacoma] of the US Coast Guard Reserve (T) [Auxiliary]. Most of TPS members were members of various USCG Reserve (T) Flotillas, around the Pacific Northwest, serving on patrol duty and/or teaching Seamanship and Piloting classes. In December 1943 P/C Bourdon called a meeting, at the Governor Hotel in Olympia, to explore the feasibility of a separate northwest district. District 16 was chartered by the USPS Governing Board in February 1944. District 16 was comprised of the Portland, Seattle, and Tacoma squadrons. It was voted that P/C Bourdon, AP be appointed Rear [District] Commander of District 16 (appointed for 1944/45, 1945/46, and 1946/47). Bourdon is referred to as the "Founding Father of District 16". Therefore, Tacoma was instrumental in the formation and leadership of District 16.

(Commander's Report continued on Page 3)

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
May 27th, 2025 (6:00-8:30PM)
Day Island Yacht Club
University Place

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
May 13^h, 2025 (6:00-8:00PM)
Black Bear Diner

Contents

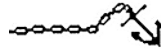
Cdr Rpt	Page 2-3
SEO Rpt	Page 4
Exc Brd Mtg Minutes/VSC	Page 5-6
Daffodil Recap	Page 7-8
86th Change of Watch	Page 9
2024-2025 TPS Organizational Roster	Page 10



(Commander’s Report continued from Page 2)

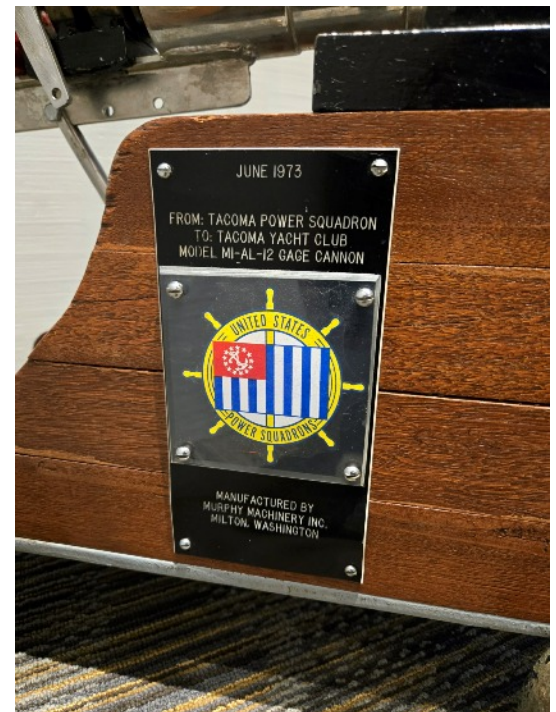
In January 1946, Bourdon was the first member of District 16 to attend, in person, the USPS National Meeting. Over the years there has been a close relationship between TYC and TPS. TPS meetings and classes were held at TYC. Following District Conferences, held at TYC, Predicted Log races were held on Commencement Bay. Talking about Predicted Log races, another interesting bit of information is that TPS member P/D/EO Neil Armstrong (DEO 55/56 & 56/57) is called the “Father of Predicted Log racing”.

Tacoma Power Squadron members continue to Partner with other organizations, increasing the Outreach, to better spread the Knowledge of recreational boating safety (see my 1st Commander’s article, in the Wake Astern, about my motto of Partner, Outreach, and Knowledge). To date the Partner[ship] and Outreach between TYC and TPS continues to spread boating skills & Knowledge. And expanding Partner, Outreach, and Knowledge; TPS continues to have members that are members of USCG Auxiliary and members that do Vessel Safety Checks (VSC), in partnership with the Auxiliary.



Sources:

District 16 USPS Fifty Years of Growth 1944-1994 50th Anniversary; by P/D/C Herbert Hearsey, N
Norwester Annual Edition 1945, Coast Guard Auxiliary; 13th Naval District
Tacoma Yacht Club – Year Book; several annual editions



(Pictures provided by Cdr Craig Brown, SN-CN)



Lt/C Scott Macleod, P

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT



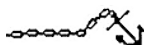
I joined the Tacoma Power Squadron because I felt an obligation to support the team that was providing the education I needed to boat safely. No other organization provided me with the breadth and depth of classes and learning opportunities provided by our members. I thank you all for your contribution to safe boating.

Our club bylaws state that we are “to encourage and promote the study of the science and art of navigation, seamanship and small boat handling...”

Accordingly we should share the knowledge we have gained with others that aren't as experienced or, like me, had no clue what I was doing. Which unfortunately is the great majority of active boaters.

I'd like to make my first article in the Wake Astern a personal thank you to the instructors from whom I have learned so much over the last several years. Specifically thank you to Andy Temple, Gary Ball, Stan Wolfe, Jim Harden, Bob Hays, and Gene Kautzman. You all took the time to develop a class curriculum and share your time with students like me. Thank you to Jackie Mattox for opening Day Island Yacht Club so we can have these classes. Finally, thank you to Bentley Rickmers who steered me to specific classes that I needed. Thank you also to the many club members that give their time to make these classes happen. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

I look forward to tapping the club's expertise to put on more classes this year that will make our waterways safer for us all.





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

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	\$XXXXXXX
Savings Balance	\$XXXXXXX
Certificate of Deposit	\$XXXXXXX
Grand Balance Total	\$XXXXXXX

(Exec Brd Mintues continued from Page 5)

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 is 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

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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 attended the Daffodil Marine Parade 2025

By P/C Stan Wolfe, SN-CN

America's Boating Club of Tacoma and South Puget Sound participated in the 2025 Daffodil Marine Parade hosted by Tacoma Yacht Club, April 11-13. This year's theme was, "Boating Locally," and TPS well represented that theme.

Daffodil is a multi-day event spanning Friday through Sunday following nearly a year of preparation by Tacoma Yacht Club. Our club's involvement begins with the decision to participate, select a boat to serve as our focal point, then decide which category we will enter in competition. There are many activities that occur during the three day event, but our focus is decorating a boat and advertising our mission of providing safe boating education to the public. This year, Brian and Barbara Prudente graciously provided Sjøen, their 42-foot Kady-Krogen as the TPS theme boat.

Friday, April 11, Brian maneuvered Sjøen through the narrow channel between the boats tied off to B and C docks aided by crew member Lt Tom Ferree, JN. They were met there by Stan and Debbie Wolfe who had picked up and delivered the club's Daffodil decorations kept in rented storage. Sjøen was moored in one of the boathouses made available for such use by the generous members of TYC. After rigging boarding accommodations, the boat was ready for Saturday's decorating party.

Saturday's weather was very comfortable, with sun and slightly cool temperatures. The work party started forming at 10:00 AM. This year the club opted to not purchase and use fresh daffodils, instead relying on the boxes of artificial flowers and bows we have. After a donut, or two, grapes, muffins, and coffee, work started with hanging our educational banner. Work then proceeded down the starboard side from bow to stern with artificial daffodils, bows of daffodils, and large picture boards of daffodils. With all the hands available, work was completed by 1:00 PM. Many of the folks then went up to the TYC Clubhouse for a lunch buffet.

Boat decorators were: Lt Brian Prudente and Lt Barbara Prudente, P/C Stan Wolfe, SN-CN and Lt Debbie Wolfe, S; Cdr Craig Brown, SN-CN; Lt Lorraine Stargel, AP; P/C Jerry Lawrence, AP; P/C Jackie Mattox, AP and P/C Richard Mattox, AP; Lt Becky Arrington, S, and guest Richard Sumpter.

If Saturday's weather was nice, Sunday's weather was even better. Work began at 9:00 AM when Brian Prudente attended the Skippers' Meeting. This meeting provides sequencing, routing, and instructions for departing from and returning to the basin. At 10:00 AM, our Commander, Craig Brown, represented TPS during the Flag Ceremony at the TYC Clubhouse deck. Departure from the boathouse began around 11:30 AM with a full crew: Skipper Brian Prudente, Host Barbara Prudente and Flag Lieutenant Mason Dixon, Craig Brown, Jackie and Richard Mattox, Becky Arrington and Richard Sumpter.

Our "Boating Locally" theme reflected some of the common activities we do or experience while boating local waters. Craig was in his foul weather gear standing at the bow as lookout under cloud balloons while Mason sprayed "rain" on him portraying our rainy and foggy weather. Jackie, wearing a "crab" hat was crabbing while both Richard & Richard were salmon fishing complete with a large a large "stuffed" salmon. Beckie was sun-bathing underneath a tethered "sun" balloon. Tacoma and SJØEN placed third with our entry in the Theme category. Great job everyone!

(Daffodil report continued on Page 8)

(Daffodil report continued from Page 7)

Upon the boat's return, Stan and Debbie Wolfe assisted with landing at the Point Defiance boat launch docks then provided ground transportation back to TYC. Final cleanup occurred on Monday, April 14. Brian and Barbara, Stan and Debbie, and Richard Mattox met at Day Island to remove and repack all the decorations then return them to storage.

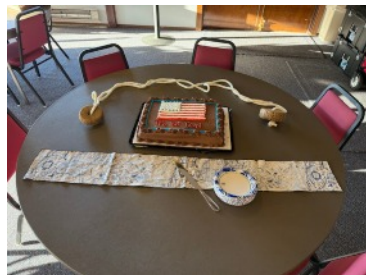
People that attended the decoration party, participated on-board in the parade, and the cleanup will receive credit toward their annual merit mark. The number of participants was just a little bit lower than past years so you may want to consider helping out next year. Watch for announcements starting in February about Daffodil 2026. Help the club, earn hours toward a merit mark, socialize with fellow members, and have some fun.



Sjoen awarded Third Place
for theme “Boating Locally”

May 2025

Tacoma & South Puget Sound Tacoma Power Squadron's 86th Change of Watch April 22nd 2025



*Pictures provided by
P/C Jim Harden, JN-CN*

**TACOMA POWER SQUADRON
2025 – 2026**

Commander	Cdr Craig Brown, SN-CN
Executive Officer	Lt/C Bob Hays, AP
Administrative Officer	Vacant
Educational Officer	Lt/C Scott Macleod, P
Asst Education 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	Lt/C Bob Hays, AP
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	P/D/C James Harden, JN-CN

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPT

Administrative Officer	Vacant
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 Gary Dildine, AP-IN
1 Yr Term	Lt Barbara Dildine, AP-IN
2 Yr Term	Lt Jeff Krueger, S
2 Yr Term	Lt Becky Arrington, S
2 Yr Term	Lt Brian Prudente
3 Yr Term	Lt Debbie Harden
3 Yr Term	P/C Jackie Mattox, AP

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

1 Yr Term	P/D/C James Harden, JN-CN
2 Yr Term	Vacant
3 Yr Term	Vacant

EDUCATION DEPT

Lt/C Lt/C Scott Macleod, P

ABC CHAIRPERSON

Lt/C Scott MacLeod, P

ELECTIVE COURSES CHAIRPERSON

Vacant

ADVANCED GRADES CHAIRPERSON

Vacant



BRIDGE OFFICERS

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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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SHIPS STORE

Vacant

TPS WEBSITE

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Cover photo by
Lt Cindy Warren, AP



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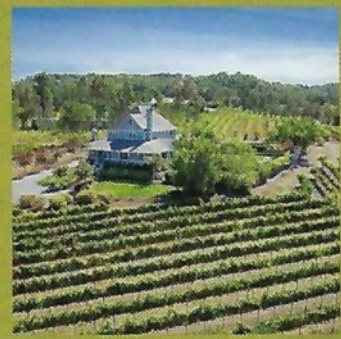
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May 2025

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

May 2025

Tacoma & South Puget Sound



June 2025

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

TACOMA POWER SQUADRON
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



May 2025

THE WAKE ASTERN

A foggy day at Deception Pass

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