



The Wake Astern

November 2025 Monthly Newsletter

Vol. 86 No. 11







COMMANDER



Last month, in my article, I talked about how I like to research & prepare for any trip. While on our cruise down the west coast of North America, through The Ditch (Panama Canal), and across the Caribbean Sea to Florida, I found it useful to be familiar with using electronic apps available on the phone. Most of these courses are constituted for the property of the broad knowledge Live gained by taking the

Cdtr Craig Brown, SN-ACN apps are ones I've gotten familiar with because of the broad knowledge I've gained by taking the advanced grades & elective classes offered by USPS. Many of us took those classes when they taught only traditional skills vs. using newer electronic technology. Those traditional skills & knowledge do allow us to recognize that something is different than what we're familiar with & need to adjust. Taking opportunities to update our knowledge & skills in the evolving technology world allows us to be greater aware of what is going on around us.

We don't need to still be operating our own boat to find it useful to learn new skills, knowledge, and tools that become available. Just a few items I used to keep track of what was happening around me. Weather app "Windy" to track the 3 hurricanes (along our route), wind speed, wave height, and the nightly thunderstorms we encountered; AIS tracker "MarineTraffic" to learn what vessels were around; and cruise ship data "CruiseMapper" to check our status & how many other cruise ships were going to be in the same port as us. I also observed that Mexico uses a different style of range marks than the USA.

While on this trip I shared with another recreational boater, from Australia, the power of using Windy to check the current & predicted weather conditions worldwide.

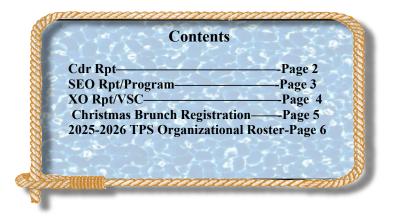
I like to say I need to continue to be learning and sharing those skills & knowledge with others. Building on my traditional skills & knowledge I continue to look for opportunities to add to those skills & knowledge using technology.



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

November 25th, 2025 (6:30-8:30 PM) @ Day Island Yacht Club University Place

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING



Tacoma & South Puget Sound





EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT



he Weather course that started October 2 is going well. Stan Wolfe has one unruly student (me) and we're storming through the material. An 8-hour basic boating course starts November 3 at Day Island Yacht Club taught by Craig Brown, Stan Wolfe, Bob Hays, and Jim Harden. Thank you all for volunteering your time to fulfill one of the key strategic objectives of our club.

Lt/C Scott Macleod, I

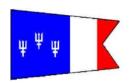
Courses in Engine Maintenance (taught by Gene Kautzman) and Radar (taught by John Dorsey) will be starting in February/March. I'm trying to get my Power Squadrons access back to put these courses together. They will both be taught at Tacoma Yacht Club. More to come.

We offer several courses/seminars a year. Take one. Take two. Recommend them to your friends and family. Let's all be more educated.











Lt Barbara Prudente Programs Chairman



PART 2

Come join us at the November 25th General Membership Meeting. Past Commander Lance and Brenda Williamson recently completed their two year voyage around the Great Loop and will share their experiences in that endeavor. This should prove to be very interesting and entertaining as well.

house, numerous winter projects can be carried out in almost any weather.



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT



Lt/C Bob Hays, AP

Well in case you have not noticed, Fall is here. What does that mean to you? Preparing the boat for the winter? Patty and I are fortunate in that we keep our Nordic Tug in the water. It is happy in its boat house. It allows us the luxury of using our boat year around. In fact, one of our targets is to take Kwazi out on New Years Day. In addition, by having the boat in the boat

Now that we have recently moved to an active seniors condominium, all the home projects that filled my fall days for many many years have vaporized. No gutters to deal with. No hoses and water lines to clear. No pruning... You get the idea. This gives me time to look at where I will spend that free time. Also, as the year winds down, I take time to look at the past year. What were my goals, and which ones did I reach? What goal was not reached? What can I learn from the year's experiences?

I am currently involved in four "volunteer" organizations. As December approaches, what do I want to spend my time doing in 2026? If we are going to travel. How will this impact my ability to be involved in these organizations? What level of responsibility do I want in these organizations? I, like most of us in the Tacoma Squadron are on the other side of 60. We realize that the odds are that our mobility will probably not only not get better, it will decrease. What do we want to do, or where do we want to go while we still can? What will my level of involvement be in the Tacoma Power Squadron? What will my involvement be in those other organizations?

What about you? What are your fall projects? How are you going to spend your time? What are you planning to be doing in 2026? What are you going to be involved in? What are you going to do with your membership in our Squadron?

If you have not been attending the meetings, why not drop by and say hi. If you regularly come to the meetings, why not help the Squadron operate better by helping in a leadership position. There are a number of them that would take less than an hour or two a month. Give some thought to taking or presenting a class. Studies show that the more we exercise our brain, the chances of dementia are reduced. Do you have boating experiences that you can share at one of our meetings? The more that members are involved in our Squadron, the better it is for all of us.

Need a Vessel Safety Check?

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P/D/C Craig Brown, SN-ACN
Email: craig-sandybrown@msn.com
Phone: 253-350-4884
Address: 4634 Kent Ct.
Kent, WA 98032-7112

P/D/C Craig Brown, SN-ACN 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.

TPS Annual Christmas Brunch 2025

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

For Boaters, By Boaters* Tacoma and South Puget Sound

Please join us for Tacoma Power Squadron's annual Christmas Brunch held at the Tacoma Yacht Club. Enjoy good food, friends and the beautiful views from the warmth of Tacoma Yacht Club. Be sure to bring your children and grandchildren along to meet Santa (he'll have goodies). Please bring an unwrapped gift for a girl or boy ages 3 -18. Gifts will be donated to "Bridges" a center for grieving children. Raffle after for the Christmas tree centerpieces..

Sunday December 7, 2025 @ 11:00 AM

Tacoma Yacht Club - 5401 North Waterfront Drive, Tacoma, WA 98407

\$37.00 per person – Children 6 to 10 \$18.50

Children 5 and under free

The Burgee Menu:

Assorted muffins, pastries and petite croissants Seasonal fruit display – Bacon and link sausage O'Brien potatoes – Scrambled eggs Chilled juices – Coffee and herbal tea

Please return check made payable to Tacoma Power Squadron and your reservation form by November 26, 2025 to:

P/C Stan Wolfe, SN-CN 2521 148th Street Ct E Tacoma WA 98445

×							
Attending Tacoma Power Squadron Christmas Brunch							
Name							
Phone							
Number of: Adults; Children 6 to 10; Children 5 and under							
Names of children who wish to see Santa:							
Total Amount enclosed \$							



TACOMA POWER SQUADRON 2025 – 2026

Commander Cdr Craig Brown, SN-ACN

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 Vacant

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-ACN 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 Vacant

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

Tacoma & South Puget Sound



BRIDGE OFFICERS

Commander

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Lt/C Bob Hays, AP

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

Vacant

Educational Officer

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

Secretary Vacant

Vacan

Treasurer

Lt/C James Harden, JN-CN

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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

www.tacomapowerandsailsquadron.org

D/16 WEBSITE

www.uspsd16.org

Cover photo by Lt Cindy Warren, AP MICHAEL MARCHETTI



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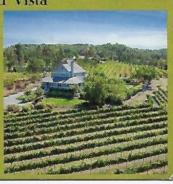
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November 2025

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

Tacoma & South Puget Sound



December 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 ABC Cls @ DIYC	2	3	4	5	6
7 Christmas Brunch @ TYC	8	9 Ex.Bd Mtg 6:00-8:00 PM Black Bear Dine	10 r	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27
28	29	30 No Gen Mbr Mgt This Month	31 Deadline for January 2026 edi- tion			

TACOMA POWER SQUADRON 5105 Grand Loop, Apt 811 TACOMA WA 98407-3196 ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED COMMUNICATOR AWARD VEWSLETT **November 2025**

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

THE WAKE ASTERN