

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB 

Tacoma   
& South Puget Sound

The  
Wake Astern

October 2024

Monthly Newsletter

Vol. 85 No. 10





**COMMANDER**



Another month has come and gone; it seemed sunny only yesterday, and it is 75+ degrees. Oh yeah, it was.

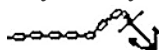
*Cdr Larry Warren, AP*

Days are a little different in Richland, WA. It's not quite as breezy and wet as Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, or almost any East Coast state at this time of the year. I can only imagine living in the Pacific Northwest. My wife raves about the hot weather here in Eastern WA, and of course, I tell her that is why there are no evergreen trees: it's too darn hot, and there is not nearly enough rain. She says, "What's Your point." That's precisely why we have yet to decide which side of the mountains to call home. Although I'm not a fan of moving too far from Washington (Family ties), I would like to find a place with some common ground. It's hard to decide whether you want to be at risk for hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, earthquakes, fires, or gloomy, wet, cool temperatures in the fall, winter, and spring. Hawaii has mild temperatures, beautiful scenery, and a laid-back lifestyle. However, even paradise has its drawbacks with an occasional volcano, living on low coastal waters that may be subject to an occasional tsunami, and having a car that you can only drive around the island, not to mention you need a very fat wallet to live there. There will always be trade-offs, no matter where we end up.

It's finally time to say goodbye to my faithful boat. She's officially on the market again after some twenty-two years. If I'm not mistaken, she's had four owners since she was built in 1978, three of which have been in the same slip all these years at Chinook Landing marina. She's seen a lot of water under her keel and traveled many miles through blue waters and stormy seas. I'm sure that her new owner will get as much pleasure from her as long as she gets the TLC that she deserves.

On a more serious note, some of you may have heard by now that our insurance is provided through Chubb Ins. Coverage of National, District, and Squadrons will end on Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Although National is trying to get an extension to cover us for another six months, they are prioritizing finding alternative insurance to cover us all. Chubb decided to stop covering us because of an incident involving one squadron involving a substantial amount of money. So, they decided to cancel our coverage after Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>. This will leave us in a position to find our own insurance coverage or go Bare, as they say. Going without insurance leaves the squadron, its officers, and its directors potentially liable for their wrongful acts. Meanwhile, the District is seeking general liability insurance to protect members. There will be much more discussion about this shortly. If you have questions or comments, bring them to the next General meeting.

As always, I'm here to answer any questions or concerns you may have. Let's continue to navigate these changes together.



**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**October 22nd, 2024 (6:30-8:30 PM)**  
**Day Island Yacht Club**  
**University Place**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**

**November 12<sup>th</sup> (6:00-8:00PM)**  
**Location TBD**

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# EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT



## Fall Maintenance

The beginning of fall is upon us and for some of us that means starting to think about preparing for freezing weather. It is easy to find any number of checklists on the web to help you with these lists, just search 'winterizing' and take your pick. There are probably even checklists in your boat's manuals and manufacture's recommendations specific to your pride and joy.

*Lt/C Edward Yotter, SN*

A sample of check list topics and a partial subset of each may look somewhat like this:

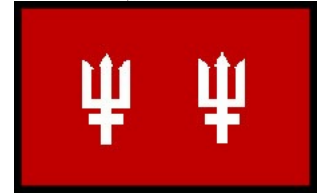
- Inboard Engine(s)
  - o Fluid(s) check and/or replacement, fogging oil in cylinders
- Stern Drive(s)
  - o Gear case oil, propeller/propeller shafts, Seals, Rubber Boots
- Outboard Engine(s)
  - o Gear case oil, propeller/propeller shafts
- Fuel
  - o Add fuel stabilizer, top off fuel tank
- Bilges
  - o Clean and dry
- Fresh Water System
  - o Drain tank, isolate hot water tank, pump non-toxic antifreeze throughout system
- Holding Tank(s)
  - o Add antifreeze to tanks and pump through hoses, y-valve, macerator, discharge hose
- Interior
  - o Remove valuables, stand pillows/cushions on edge so air can circulate around them, open/clean all drawers and lockers, open and clean refrigerator(s) and freezer(s)
  - o Install dehumidifier or use commercial odor/ moisture absorber product
- Out of Water Storage
  - o Pressure wash hull, clean thru-hulls, open seacocks, check hull for damage, check and charge batteries, clean terminals, check bilge pumps and float switches
- In Water Storage
  - o Close all seacocks, check rudder shafts/stuffing boxes for leaks, clean thru-hulls, open seacocks, check and charge batteries, clean terminals, check bilge pumps and float switches
- Trailer
  - o Check tires for wear, check/grease wheel bearings, check trailer lights and function, check/grease trailer tongue hitch lock, check safety chains

(Executive Officer report continued on Page 6)



*Lt/C Bob Hays,*

# ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT



**W**e all joined the US Power Squadron or America's Boating Club for many different reasons. Some of us have boats and are looking for different things to learn. Many have gone through many phases in their membership and are now here for the community. There are a few members that like to be involved in teaching, vessel safety checks or other programs. No matter why you joined, or why you stay, what is your LOE?

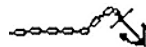
Your LOE (level of engagement) not only determines what you get out of your membership, it also impacts how much others get out of their memberships. We all have different experiences, skills and abilities. By bringing those things to the club and actively sharing them, we all benefit.

There are many ways that you can be engaged. Reading the newsletter that P/C Richard Mattox develops for us can keep you knowledgeable on not only what is going on in our squadron but also makes you aware of engagement opportunities. What skills would you like to improve? What knowledge do you have that others need? What dish has been passed down in your family that you can share? Do you take the few minutes that it would take to read our newsletter so you can know what is going on?

What knowledge or skill would you like to learn or improve? There is well over 100 years of experience in our squadron. Yes, there are boating classes that you can take and/or teach. But, what about all the boating and life knowledge that is brought by our members? You are not limited to just boating information, there are people here that might well be able to help you with challenges that you might be having outside of boating. It could be well worth your time to chat with a member that you don't know that well and learn about them and their life experiences. You might find someone with similar interests that you can share lessons learned. You might find someone that has a skill that fills a need that you have. You could even find someone that has a need for information on a skill that you have.

I have found that the more involved that I am in an organization, the more that I get out of it, and the more that I learn. It is said that 80% of success is showing up. At best, I believe that 50% of success is showing up, with 25% of success being aware of what is going on, and the final 25% at least involving actively engaging.

So, what is your level of engagement? How much enjoyment are you getting out of your membership? What are you learning and sharing? You bring things to the Tacoma Power Squadron that no one else can. You have different knowledge needs than others. What can you do to be more engaged? It could well change the value that you and others get out of being a part of the Tacoma Power Squadron.





Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S  
Sq Education Officer

# EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT



I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer boating! Most people are back from boating and time to start classes again. A few clubs are doing their classes over Zoom which makes it convenient for members from other clubs to join in. Upcoming boating classes:

**Engine Maintenance** Starts October 1 every other week via Zoom 7 classes.  
One class in person 10/17 presented by Seattle Power Squadron.  
Contact Mike Lancey for more information and to register. [mikelancey@gmail.com](mailto:mikelancey@gmail.com)

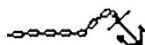
**ABC** starts October 7 for 4 weeks plus exam night Day Island Yacht Club  
If you know anyone who needs their Washington State Boater's Card, this is the class to take. This is an in-person class taught by knowledgeable instructors from our own club.

**Piloting** October 10 10 weeks Zoom with Beaverton PS  
Learn the essentials of safe coastal and inland navigation using basic GPS in conjunction with charts and other marine data. The *Marine Navigation* course teaches you how to use the GPS along with traditional dead reckoning techniques for planning and laying out safe routes, as well as ensuring that you are on-course while underway.

**Boat Handling** Oct. 15 6 weeks Zoom with Beaverton PS  
Learn how to handle your boat in a variety of situations and become the skipper you want to be. Gain confidence in docking, underway, anchoring, and other seamanship skills.

Our new Boat Handling course is intended for newer recreational boaters who have completed a basic boating class (like America's Boating Course) and want to gain more knowledge, skill, and confidence to boat safely and have more fun in a variety of situations.

To register for these classes, click on the link below:  
<https://americasboatingclub.org/index.php/find-a-class-near-you?zip=98467&range=150>

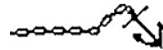




**(Executive Officer report continued from Page 3)**

As I have gotten ‘older and wiser and the spring in my step has sprung’, you can do what I have done for the past few years, hire a marine shop to do the heavy lifting. My boat is stored on a trailer and is raw water cooled so protecting the engine from sustaining any water freezing damage is paramount. The folks I let do it run the engine and outdrive in antifreeze for 15 minutes or so, then shut it down so that all the nooks and crannies are filled with antifreeze. They also do the inspection and service of all the other systems listed above.

Time and money spent now pays dividends in the spring when you get antsy to be out boating again. I usually put my boat in storage in October or early November when the marine shop is less busy and to free up my time for the holidays.



**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  
September 10, 2024**

**Quorum: Yes, 10 Board Members Present including:**

Gary & Barb Dldine  
Beck Arrington  
Brian Prudente  
Jeff Kruger  
Larry Warren  
Ed Potter  
Bob Hayes

**Approval of Minutes** - Suspended due to Lt/C Beth Stone being absent

**OFFICERS REPORTS:**

**Executive Officer: Lt/C Ed Yotter**

No report this evening

**Admin Officer: Lt/C Bob Hays**

No report

**Education Report: Lt/C Bentley Rickmers - absent**

**Class Schedules:**

10/01 - Seattle PS: Maintenance class via zoom with one class in person.... Mike Lacey will be the instructor

10/07 - 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

**Treasurer Report: P/R/C Jim Harden - absent**

No report

**Commander - Cdr. Larry Warren**

Poulsbo District Rendezvous - 9 boats showed up, so considered a poor turnout as far as squadrons in general.. Tacoma had the most people who showed up. I'm attempting to set up next year's District Rendezvous with the Port of Poulsbo. However, there have been big changes to their staffing and the closing of E & F docks this fall for new construction. They will be moving the fuel dock down to the end of E dock and building a new office building. They are accepting reservations for next year for Yacht clubs. More to come...

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Clarification of board members elected to serve:

1 year term:

P/C Stan Wolf

Debbie Wolfe

2 year term:

P/C Gary Dildine AP/IN

Barb Dildine AP/IN

3 year term:

Lt Becky Arrington S

Lt Jeff Kruger S

Lt Brian Prudent

(Exec Brd Minutes continued on Page 8)

October 2024

# Tacoma & South Puget Sound



(Exec Brd Mintues continued from Page 7)

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Jeff is checking with the TYC to see if the Christmas Brunch will be held there. More information to follow.  
Past Commanders BBQ - possibilities for something different than the normal fair?

**Adjourned at 8:05 PM**

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## **Tacoma Power Squadron General Member Meeting September 24, 2024**

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**Call to Order:** 7:15 PM

**Quorum:** Yes

**Secretary Report** - Beth Stone will complete the minutes before next meeting

### **Executive Officer: Ed Yotter**

Gave a recap of the Rendezvous at Sharps in September. Good turnout and everyone enjoyed eating Salmon and Clams.  
Coop Charting - Jim Harden is in Pittsburg and will have updates at next meeting

### **Safety Inspection: Craig Brown**

All but 2 inspectors have completed their quota of safety checks  
Total of 184 checks this year - Unfortunately, it is 315 LESS than last year. So if anyone knows of fellow boaters in their marinas, who could benefit from this service, please let us know.  
Safety Check Events were held at the Shelton, Olympia, Quartermaster, & Foss Harbor Marinas  
There will be a 2025 VSC Workshop for next year - highly likely it will be mandatory by the Coast Guard.  
More Yacht Clubs are requiring to have vessel checks completed for their tenants.

### **Education Report: Bentley Rickmers**

#### **Class Schedules:**

10/1 - Seattle PS: 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

### **Merit Marks Report: Christine Rasmussen**

Has given forms out at the tables. 25 merit marks for life. Would like info by the end of the first week of next week. Ten hours for each merit mark. Gave us a pep talk on big and little things we do.

(General Mtg Minutes continued on Page 9)





(General Mtg Minutes continued from Page 8)

**Treasurer Report: Jim Harden**

Absent from meeting.

Thanks to everyone who helped out tonight.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Poulsbo District Rendezvous - 9 boats showed up. Tacoma had the most people who showed up.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

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

Sunshine Notice by Leslie Horton. If we know of anyone who could use some cheering up with a nice card, please let Leslie know.

Jeff Ringstad and Nancy - Space Needle Stair Climb - There are 832 Steps and they are fund raising with proceeds to go to the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research/Medical Center. There is a link at Fred Hutchinson's web site.

District 16 Fall Conference will be on Saturday, 10/12 from 9 AM - 12 PM via Zoom

Larry Warren has remained us to send him photos from trips this summer. Send Photos to Larry - \$50 gift certificate for Lowe's if your picture is selected.

Fisherman's Terminal on Saturday. Teaching boating safety for kids. Nancy Ringstad is teaching.

**Adjourned at 8:05 PM**





# Christmas Brunch

## Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

It's fast approaching the time of year that we all so love! The Holiday season will soon be upon us, bringing our own "Christmas Brunch," our Toy Drive for "Bridges a Center for Grieving Children," and our annual Food Drive for Nourish Pierce County. Of course, we would love to see a massive pile of toys for Boys and Girls who have lost a sibling, a parent, or some other traumatic event in their lives. At times like these, it's most important to bring some joy, a smile, or take their mind off such an emotionally disturbing event.

By donating to our account @ Nourish Pierce County, you're not just feeding the less fortunate citizens of Pierce County during the Holiday's and beyond. You're also spreading the joy of the season and making a difference in someone's life. Your donations, no matter how big or small, are a valuable part of our efforts.

Last but not least is the Christmas Brunch; it's not too early to start thinking about and possibly volunteering to make some Table Center Pieces. Center Pieces are typically auctioned off, and monies collected can go into the General fund or used for prizes at our Summer picnic, less your expenses if you wish. Please put on your thinking caps and come up with something stunning to shine on our tables at the Brunch. We usually make at least a dozen each year. Please get in touch with me or any of our bridge members for questions or comments.

Cdr. Larry Warren, AP



**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	<b>Vacant</b>
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	<b>Vacant</b>
Legislative	<b>Vacant</b>

**ADMINISTRATIVE DEPT**

Administrative Officer	Lt/C Bob Hays
Boating Activities	<b>Vacant</b>
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	<b>Vacant</b>
Commencement Bay	P/C Jackie Mattox, AP

**TREASURER DEPT**

Treasurer	Lt/C James Harden, JN-CN
Property Officer	<b>Vacant</b>
Ship’s Store	Lt Karen Jackson

**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**

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Cdr Larry Warren, AP  
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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**

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**SHIPS STORE**

Lt Karen Jackson

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www.tacomapowerandsailsquadron.org

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www.uspsd16.org

Cover photo by  
Lt Cindy Warren, AP



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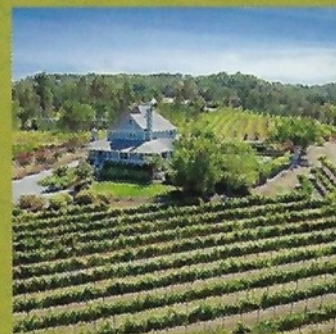
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# October 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Engine Maint Cls	2	3	4	5
6	7 ABC Cls @ DIYC Marine Navigation via Zoom	8 Ex.Bd Mtg 6:00-8:00 PM @ TBD Engine Maint Cls	9	10 Plt Cls via Zoom	11	12
13	14 ABC Cls @ DIYC Marine Navigation via Zoom	15 Boat Hndlg Via Zoom Engine Maint Cls	16	17 Plt Cls via Zoom	18	19
20	21 ABC Cls @ DIYC Marine Navigation via Zoom	22 Gen Mtg 6:30-8:30 PM @ DIYC Boat Hndlg Via Zoom Engine Maint Cls	23 Deadline for November edition The Wake Astern	24 Plt Cls via Zoom	25	26
27	28 ABC Cls @ DIYC Marine Navigation via Zoom	29 Boat Hndlg Via Zoom Engine Maint Cls	30	31 Halloween Plt Cls via Zoom		



# November 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 Plt Cls via Zoom	8	9
10	11 Veterans Day	12 Ex.Bd Mtg 6:00-8:00 PM TBD Boat Hndlg Via Zoom Engine Maint Cls	13	14 Plt Cls via Zoom	15	16
17	18	19 Boat Hndlg Via Zoom Engine Maint Cls	20	21 Plt Cls via Zoom	22	23
24	25	26 Gen Mtg 6:30-8:30 PM @ DIYC Boat Hndlg Via Zoom	27 Deadline for December edition The Wake Astern	28 Plt Cls via Zoom	29	30

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**October 2024**

