



The Wake Astern

October 2025

Monthly Newsletter

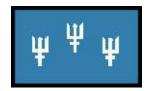
Vol. 86 No. 10





or Boaters, by Boaters





 ${f P}$ reparing for the voyage

I'm getting ready to go on a 22-day voyage. We'll be leaving Seattle going down the west coast, through Cdtr Craig Brown, SN-ACN

The Ditch (Panama Canal), then up to Florida. The nice thing is I'm not responsible for the navigation or operation of the vessel. I get to relax. But I still like to be prepared. I've been reading up on the history

of the Panama Canal (what landlubbers call it vs mariners calling it "The Ditch"). Beginning as early as 1523, people began studying building a navigable waterway across the isthmus between the Atlantic & Pacific oceans. Over the years there have been many proposed routes for the waterway. Even today there are still discussions about alternative options. The French began in 1879 the first actual construction of a canal. There were many unforeseen obstacles. The United States took over construction in 1904 and completed the canal in 1914. During my research I found older books written by an author that talked with people involved in the construction. They gave me a slightly different perspective than contemporary books.

As you can see, I like to thoroughly research prior to going on a voyage. The US Power Squadrons has a mission to educate recreational vessel owners, so they have the skills & knowledge to go safely on voyages. The key to education is to provide them with multiple resources to gather the skills & knowledge needed to be fully prepared for the voyage.

Over the 86 years of Tacoma Power Squadron, we've had many members that have dedicated many hours (days) to the missions of the US Power Squadrons. With time these have collected the 25 Merit Marks to receive the distinguished title of Life Member. Over the summer, several Life Members graciously donated money to support the Squadron on our voyage of providing skills & knowledge through education.

At the General meeting in October, we'll get to learn how skills & knowledge, learned from USPS, assisted Lance & Brenda Williamson to complete their Great Loop cruise. The Great Loop cruise (voyage) requires skills & knowledge to deal with many changing situations.



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

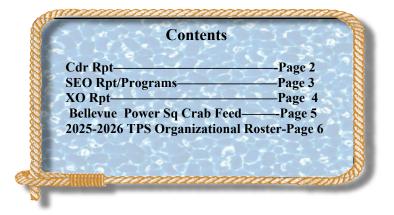
October 28th, 2025 (6:30-8:30 PM)

@ Day Iland Yacht Club
University Place

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

October 14th, (6:00-8:00 PM)

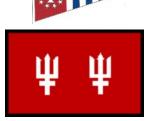
@ Black Bear Diner







EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT



Important notes on the education side are:

October 2: Weather course starts at Tacoma Yacht Club by Stan Wolfe

November 3: ABC course starts at Day Island Yacht Club taught by the usual miscreants.

Pending: Gene Kautzman will teach an Engine Maintenance course. Date TBD.

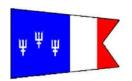
General item: there's a change in testing format for many classes. I have not dug into the details.















Lt Barbara Prudente Programs Chairman

Come join us at the October 28th 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.



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT



Lt/C Bob Hays, AP

At our September Meeting we came together after our summer break. Hopefully you found time to take advantage of the sunshine, inviting waters in our area, and perhaps getting together with family and friends.

However, another significancy to the September Meeting is the winding down of this Power Squadron Year and to prepare for the next year to come. The end of the year brings the Boating Safety Classes that we put on to educate the public and perhaps gather some new members. If you know of people that should take our ABC Class, the next one is starting in November.

One of the most important activities that we will be partaking in during the coming few months is the election of our officers. This club needs to have elected leaders not only to lead us, but to fulfill the requirements of America's Boating Club. This Squadron cannot continue if we do not have the required elected officers in place. It is easy to assume that others will step up and fill these positions, but perhaps a better question would be, what am I contributing to this organization? We joined because we believed in what this organization stands for and wanted to be a part of that. But are we an active part of this club and what it wants to accomplish for the community and our fellow members? Some of you have held leadership positions in the past, your past experience could help us learn and grow our new members. Perhaps some of you have never held a leadership position in our squadron, step forward and we will help you learn and grow. There are some new members that have life experiences that would benefit us and our organization. The fastest way to learn about an organization that you are part of is to be engaged with the leadership of that organization.

Through a unique situation I was asked to step into leadership positions in my second and third year in this Squadron. I have stumbled, was given help, got lost, learned, made mistakes, and corrected. That added to getting certified as an instructor and vessel examiner and given me the opportunity to learn so much more than I ever would have learned just showing up for the meetings.

Allow our Squadron to learn from your experience, benefit from your knowledge and share a leadership journey with you.



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.





BSPS Crab Feed

Saturday, November 8 2025 Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club

- · 6:00pm for social hour
- 6:30pm for the crab dinner!



\$35 for whole crab

\$25 for 1/2 crab

\$20 for spaghetti

\$10 spaghetti for kids under 10



Includes Potato and Caesar salads, MBYC's amazingly delicious Italian bread & ice cream sundaes!

No Host Bar (Beer, Wine, and soft drinks)

Deadline for reservations: Saturday, November 1st

No payments will be taken at the door. Secure your reservation by credit card by using PayPal at <u>Social Events | Bellevue Sail and Power Squadron | United States (bellevuepowersquadron.org)</u> or send your check (made payable to BSPS) to:

Jan Brintnall 6220 82nd Ave S Mercer Island, WA 98040

Questions? Contact Jan at 206 669-6152 (text) or <u>jbrintnall@comcast.net</u> Don't forget your crab crackers, butter is available upon request.



TACOMA POWER SQUADRON 2025 - 2026

Commander Cdr Craig Brown, SN-ACN

Lt/C Bob Havs, AP **Executive Officer**

Administrative Officer Vacant

Lt/C Scott Macleod, P **Educational Officer 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

Lt Barbara Dildine, AP-IN 1 Yr Term 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 Lt Becky Arrington, S 2 Yr Term 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

Commander

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

Lt/C Bob Hays, AP

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

Vacant

Educational Officer

Lt/C Scott Macleod, P Email: 165racer@icloud.com Asst Education Officer

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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October 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Weather Cls @ TYC	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 Weather Cls @ TYC	10	11
12	6:0	14 x.Bd Mtg 0-8:00 PM ck Bear Diner	15	16 Weather Cls @ TYC	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Weather Cls @ TYC	24	25
26	6:3	0-8:30 PM Nover	29 adline for mber edition Vake Astern	30 Weather Cls @ TYC	31 Halloween	



November 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	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	12 ner	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 POWER SQUADRON 5105 Grand Loop, Apt 811 TACOMA WA 98407-3196

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



October 2025

THE WAKE ASTERN

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