

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB 

Tacoma   
& South Puget Sound

The  
Wake Astern

August 2021

Monthly Newsletter

Vol. 82 No. 8



**COMMANDER**



*Cdr Stan Wolfe, SN-CN*

**G**reetings from your Commander!

Mark your calendars for several upcoming events!

The traditional Sharps' place Salmon Bake is back! Mark your calendars for September 11 at 11:00 AM at the Sharps home. More details appear on Page 7 of this edition.

The D16 Fall Conference date is set for 9 October 2021. It will be held virtually.

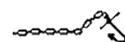
I am still planning and hoping that the Past Commanders' BBQ will be an in-person event September 28 at Day Island Yacht Club. Plan to attend, bring a side dish to share. Remember that we no longer have bartenders so the event will be BYOB. There is no program, but plan to tell us what kind of classes you'd like to attend and which ports you want to visit in the 2022 rendezvous schedule. A good war story about an adventure or boat project would be nice as well.

So, on to the other fun stuff involving boating. Remember the post card in the mail, "Having a great time! Wish you were here." I wish we had more members participating as the TPS Cruise powered through to Poulsbo, Port Ludlow, Port Townsend, Pleasant Harbor, Kingston, and Brownsville. I enjoyed the newness of Pleasant Harbor with the cruise through Hood Canal, steering wide to avoid the nuclear submarine departing Bangor Naval Station, and the entry into a very narrow, but beautiful harbor. Kingston was my favorite stop with crepes, electric cars, and a wonderful hardware store to keep me fat and happy. Many thanks to all those that participated, be it one stop or all. I would like to especially thank P/C Larry (AP) and LT Cindy (AP) Warren for their help planning, serving as our wagon train "Chuck Wagon," and providing some of the best ribs I've ever ate at the potlucks.

I hope to share more cruise stories with everyone, and I encourage our participants to do the same. For example, if one of you called me and I didn't pick up, it might be because my iPhone 8 ended up in the drink at Port Ludlow. I'm sure Mr. Crab is enjoying the pictures of life above the surface. Hot tip for all - cell phones need to be in your pocket or a waterproof (and preferably floating) pouch. I have one now for my new iPhone 12. Just got to get all those apps re-loaded.

I don't know who will be planning out next cruise (hint, hint) but I would love to see Hood Canal again with two stops: Pleasant Harbor and Alderbrook. If that isn't in the plan, maybe we can cross the straits again for a San Juan Islands cruise.

See you out on the water or at a general meeting coming soon!



**General Membership Meetings**  
Held  
**SEPTEMBER THRU MAY**  
**ONLY**  
\*\*\*\*\*  
**Executive Board Meetings**  
Held on  
**As Needed Basis**

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# EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT



## What's new with Life Jackets?

*Lt/C James Harden, JN, CN* Coast Guard to Approve Level 100 Inherently Buoyant Lifejackets The Coast Guard has issued a policy letter on obtaining Coast Guard approval on Level 100 lifejackets. This policy builds upon previous efforts the Coast Guard in cooperation with Transport Canada (TC) and members of the Personal Floatation Device (PFD) community to harmonize North American PFD standards.

Policy Letter 02-21, Adoption of ANSI/CAN/UL 12402-4 states the U.S. Coast Guard has determined that a Level 100 jacket which meets the requirements of UL 12402-4 using inherently buoyant material provides equivalent performance to a non-standard lifejacket meeting the requirements of 46 CFR 160.055.

Level 100 lifejackets are intended for commercial vessels. However, they are acceptable for use on recreational vessels. They do provide face-up flotation with a level of support sufficient for open water use and turn most users face-up, even when the user is unconscious.

Policy Letter 02-21 can be found here: <https://www.dco.uscg.mil/ENG/Policy/>

## Will this cause a change to Enforcement, Vessel Exam or Safety Checks?

No - Just like with all lifejackets, authorities will check for the Coast Guard Approval number, that the device is in serviceable condition, and is being used in accordance with any requirements on the approval label. Please note the Coast Guard has evaluated only the performance of inherently buoyant Level 100 lifejackets. Lifejackets that rely partly or entirely on inflation for buoyancy are not covered by this policy. U.S. Coast Guard Lifejacket requirements: A wearable lifejacket for each person must be onboard the vessel. These lifejackets must be U.S. Coast Guard approved, the proper size for the intended wearer, in good and serviceable condition, and properly stowed (readily accessible). When a vessel is underway with children under 13 years old, they must be wearing a lifejacket unless they are below deck or in an enclosed cabin. NOTE: On some state waters, this age requirement may vary. The Coast Guard recommends that you always wear your lifejacket.

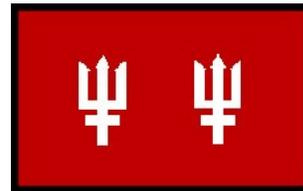
Where can I find more information about lifejackets? Life Jacket Wear / Wearing your Life Jacket ([www.uscgboating.org](http://www.uscgboating.org)).





*Lt/C Sam Hill, P*

## ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT



Vessel maintenance is essential for the long life of your vessel. This does not only include mechanical maintenance. This includes maintenance inside and outside of your vessel. Of course you want your vessel to operate safely and smoothly. But at the same time, you want to look good on the water with your vessel. The looking good part includes maintaining your upholstery inside, and maintaining your paint outside. I need all the help I can get with the looking cool part on the water. I wax my boat at the beginning of each season and at the end of the season. Maybe I even look cool waxing the boat, who knows?

Maintaining your vessel is more than only completing an inspection prior to your cruise. You also need to care for your vessel while underway and complete a check of your vessel upon completion of your cruise. I break the checks down into three areas that help me remember things I need to do and when I need to do them. This article is not intended to be a checklist for you to use with your vessel. It's only intended as some helpful hints about operator maintenance you can perform during a cruise. Prior checks, Underway checks, and Completion checks (PUC). PUC reminds me that I am constantly checking on my vessel even during my cruise. Please refer to your owner's manual for a more information on vessel checks and scheduled maintenance. With your owner's manual and your knowledge you will be able to come up with a checklist to perform PUC's for your vessel. Below is an example of what I am checking during my cruise.

### NOT INTENDED AS A CHECKLIST FOR YOUR VESSEL

#### **PRIOR:**

- Have a Vessel Safety Check (VSC) yearly
- Check for all required safety equipment
- Check your fluids levels and top off when needed
- Ensure you have the proper amount of fuel (I always start with a full tank)
- Check hoses
- Check for fluid leaks (engine off)
- Check to ensure you instruments are operating
- Ensure the vessel plug is installed (I have forget that one time)
- Check the hull for damage
- Ensure the steering and throttle controls are operational
- Check the electrical system (lights are operational, bilge pump is operational, blower is operational etc.)
- Check your batteries
- Check the propeller for damage
- Check the weather
- Engine cutoff switch is operational
- Start your engine and check for leaks

**(Administrative Officer Report continued on Page 5)**

Closing date for articles is the fourth Wednesday of each month. Please direct all articles to the Editor. E-mail to: ricque0602@comcast.net, Mail to: 5105 Grand Loop, Apt # 811, Tacoma, WA 98407. Telephone: (253) 581-1732. Please submit member address and other data changes to the Tacoma Power Squadron Secretary.



(Administrative Officer Report continued from Page 4)

Check your owner’s manual prior to operating your vessel for more information

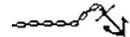
**UNDERWAY:**

- Listen for any unusual noises
- Feel for unusual vibrations
- Be aware of any unusual smells
- Keep an eye on your instrument (engine temperature, battery voltage etc.)

**Completion:**

- Remove your plug
- Flush your engine to remove debris from the water pump flow tube and clean the engine
- Check your fluids levels and top off when needed
- Check for signs of fluid leaks
- Check the propeller for damage and for fishing line that can get caught in your propeller
- Clean your boat inside and out, removing dirt and salt from your upholstery and paint
- Check the hull for damage
- Check the electrical system (lights are working, bilge is working etc.)

These are **ONLY** helpful hints. A reminder of the importance of vessel maintenance. This is **NOT** a checklist for your vessel. Each vessel is different and should be cared for using the owner’s manual along with your knowledge and experience. With those things in mind you can create your own checklist. Take care of your vessel and your vessel will take care of you. Do your maintenance prior to your trip, keep your eyes on your vessel while underway, and never forget about maintenance that is needed when your cruise is complete. I like to look as cool as possible when boating. I never forget about my upholstery and my paint. Waxing your vessel sooner than later will assist in keeping your vessel looking new. Welcome to August 2021 members. Stay safe on the water and let us have a great August 2021.



**Need a Vessel Safety Check?**  
**It’s Fast, It’s Easy, and best of all,**  
**IT’S FREE !!!**



**All you have to do is contact**  
**Lt Sue Walker, S**  
**Email: sue98402@gmail.com**  
**Phone: (253-213-2850)**

Susan Walker is our VSC Chairperson, phone number: 253-213-2850. **Please note new email address above.**

Address where the VSC inspectors should send a copy of inspection reports to Sue Walker, P.O. Box 519 Tacoma, WA 98401. She will also be taking requests for VSC supplies etc. as well as helping organize VSC team events that we may do.



Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S  
Sq Education Officer

# EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT



Lt/C Sandi Carroll, SN  
Asst. Education Officer

I hope everyone got a chance to go boating in this beautiful weather! We have been out boating for the past several weeks. What a spectacular place we live in! One thing I have noticed while being in the San Juan Islands and just about anywhere is the number of inexperienced boaters out there. Whether it is displaying the National Ensign incorrectly or anchoring too close to another and not putting out enough rode or just can't dock a boat shows me more people need boating classes.

That is what we are here for! Boating education. We will have a Piloting class starting September 14, 2021 for 10 weeks. Registration will be up online soon. Check our website for a link or go directly to [Americasboatingclub.org](http://Americasboatingclub.org). The class may be hybrid, a combination virtual and in person. More information to come.

We hope to have a basic boating class, America's Boating Course, soon. So, if you know anyone who may be interested in this course let them know! Speaking of ABC, we need a chairperson. We have instructors. We just need someone to monitor the class and help proctor the test. Most instructors prefer to remain virtual. If you feel this is an opportunity you would like to do, please contact me.

Did you know:

- 38% of all water-related fatalities involve boats.
- 71% of these fatalities involve recreational boats
- Of this 71%, 53% involve small powerboats; 30% involve canoes

**Conclusion:** *Small, open boats continue to be the type of craft most involved in fatal boating accidents*

Hope everyone has a chance to get out boating and practice what you have learned in classes. While cruising North Puget Sound and the San Juan Islands this summer it is good to know the rules, follow the charts and use the range markers. There is a lot of water to explore and best to do it safely.

(Education Officer Report continued on Page 7)





(Education Officer Report continued from Page 6)

## BOAT HANDLING

The Beaverton Sail and Power Squadron is offering a course on **BOAT HANDLING**. Great next course after your basic boating card!! Virtual meeting will start Monday September 13th, 2021, 07:00-09:00PM.

The **BOAT HANDLING** curriculum comprises a full six-part (2 hours each) Boat Handling course:

- Rules of the Road: A Practical Approach
- Confidence in Docking and Undocking: Slow-Speed Maneuvering
- Boating with Confidence: Handling Your Boat Underway
- Anchoring with Assurance: Don't Get Carried Away
- Emergencies on Board: Preparation to Handle Common Problems
- Knots and Line Handling: The Knots You Need to Know

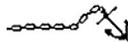
Price of \$90 includes e-book. \$140 for a couple sharing one e-book. Pricing includes exam.

Please register at: <https://americasboatingclub.org/find-a-course-near-you?zip=97223&range=20>

Additional questions can be sent to the Squadron Education Officer at [SEO.BSPS@gmail.com](mailto:SEO.BSPS@gmail.com)

The [freeconferencecall.com](https://freeconferencecall.com) meeting code will be sent prior to the start of course.

Happy and safe boating!!



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## Chuck & Viki Sharp Annual Salmon Bake September 11, 2021, 11:00 AM

Clams at 12:00. Clams, Salmon Corn, and this is a potluck, \$10.00 per person. Plates and silverware will be provided. Bring a side dish to share. Beer, wine, and coffee will be by donation. Bring your own chairs. Please let the Sharps know if you plan to attend.

### Directions to Sharps for the Salmon Bake

Take I-5 to 101, Ocean Beaches. Exit 104 on the Right. There will be 2 lanes going right and 2 lanes going left. You will want to go left but get into the outside lane as it narrows down to one lane. You will be on Black Lake Blvd. Stay there until you see Black Lake on your left, keep going, after the Lake, past our new Fire Station, on your right. Keep going to the "T". Turn left, go past the Golf Course Rd, on the right, keep going but slow down and Kinney Rd. will be on the left. Turn there, go past Thornberg and we are just a hop, skip, and jump. A sign will be out. Turn right and come down a gravel road to the barn on your left. Park in the field or close to the house. See you there. 5517 Kinney Rd. S.W., Olympia, WA, 98512 Home (360)-866-7134 Cell (360)-359-2774.

**TACOMA POWER SQUADRON  
2021 - 2022**

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Administrative Officer	Lt/C Sam Hill, P
Educational Officer	Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S
Secretary	Lt/C Beth Stone, S
Treasurer	Lt/C Jackie Mattox, AP

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Sunshine	Lt Leslie Burton, S
Merit Mark	P/D/C Christine Rasmussen, SN
Galley Manager	Lt Lorraine Stargel, AP

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Boat Show	<b>Vacant</b>
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Mbrship Involvement	P/C Jackie Mattox, AP
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Programs	Lt Barbara Prudente

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Commencement Bay	P/C Jackie Mattox, AP

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2 Yr Term	Lt Aaron Strasser, S
3 Yr Term	Lt Debbie Wolf
3 Yr Term	Lt Karen Jackson

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3 Yr Term	Lt Tom Ferree, AP

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ASEO	Lt/C Sandi Carroll, SN

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P/C Lance(P) & Brenda(P) Williamson

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**BOATING ACTIVITIES CHAIR**

Chm Lt Cindy Warren, AP  
 360-897-8692 Home  
 l.m.warren-1@hotmail.com

**The Wake Astern**

Editor: P/C Richard Mattox, AP  
 (253) 581-1732  
 ricque0602@comcast.net

**SHIPS STORE**

P/C Tim Craig, P, Stores  
 Linda Craig, S, Clothing  
 (253) 536-1222  
 tlc861@comcast.net

**TPS WEBSITE**

www.tacomapowerandsailsquadron.org

**D/16 WEBSITE**

www.uspsd16.org

Cover photo by  
 Lt Cindy Warren, AP



**Lighthouse Marine, Inc.**

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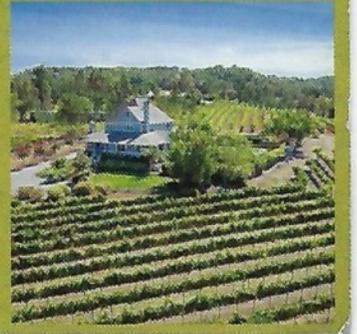
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# August 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 No Ex. Bd. Mtg. June thru August	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 No Gen. Mtgs June thru August	25 Deadline for September Edition The Wake Astern	26	27	28
29	30	31				



# September 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6 <small>Labor Day</small>	7	8	9	10	11 <b>Sharp Annual Salmon Bake</b>
12	13 <b>Boat Hndlg Via Zoom</b>	14 Plt Cls via Zoom  Ex. Bd Mtg 6:30-8:30 PM @ TBD	15	16	17	18
19	20 <b>Boat Hndlg Via Zoom</b>	21 Plt Cls via Zoom	22	23	24	25
26	27 <b>Boat Hndlg Via Zoom</b>	28 Plt Cls via Zoom  Gen Mtg Cdrs' BBQ 6:30-8:30 PM @ DIYC	29 <b>Deadline for October edition The Wake Astern</b>	30		

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**AUGUST 2021**

