

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB 

Tacoma 
& South Puget Sound

The
Wake Astern

November 2021 Monthly Newsletter Vol. 82 No. 11



COMMANDER



Cdr Stan Wolfe, SN-CN

Greetings from your Commander!

The District 16 Conference was held virtually via Zoom on October 9th. Most notably, there is an on-going initiative by National to reorganize. The current National-District relationship would be replaced by a National-Regional arrangement. So, instead of the 32 districts (plus one cyber-looking organization) currently in USPS, there would be five regions. My opinion is that this is a way to streamline communication with National while reducing staffing requirements across the board. I know from personal experience that it is becoming more difficult to find volunteers to fill the many roles required to run a multi-level organization. I've not seen a timeframe for implementation, but the overall impact on day-to-day operations within our club will likely be minimal.

However, on that note, please remember you will be getting a call from the nominating committee asking you to serve on a committee, on the bridge, or as an individual contributor in positions like vessel safety examiner (VSE) or instructor. Individuals also serve as cooperative charting reporters going out and recovering aids-to-navigation (ATON) and USGS survey markers. All of these jobs are fun and help you earn a merit mark. When called, seriously consider helping out our club.

We decided to not have any in-person general meetings the remainder of 2021; the exception being the Christmas Brunch. As to the Brunch, I'll pass on what I know so far as planning. The Brunch will be held Sunday, December 5, 11:00 AM at the Tacoma Yacht Club. The buffet format will cost \$24 per person, \$12 for kids 6-10 and free for those under six. We will be spread out a bit more than usual with six to a table for social distancing purposes and masks are required when not seated. You should have already seen an email with the invite and payment information. The registration form is also on Page 6. Please respond by November 19 so we can provide TYC an accurate count.

This year we are conducting the toy and food drive during and after the brunch. We will be collecting donations of new, unwrapped toys for Bridges, a program for grieving children and collecting nonperishable foods for the Nourish Pierce County. We will be collecting only on Sunday, December 5 due to TYC activities on Saturday. If attending the brunch, bring your donations inside with you; if not attending, but willing to donate a toy and/or food, you can do so by driving up to the TYC portico between 1:00 and 4:00 PM. In the case of both drives, a cash donation would not be turned down if that is more convenient for you.

(Commander report continued on Page 4)

Call to Meeting
General Membership Meeting
November 23rd, 2021(7:00-9:00 PM)
Via Zoom

Executive Board Meeting
November 9th, 2021(7:00-9:00 PM)
Via Zoom

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT



Lt/C James Harden, JN- CN

We are now at the end of this year's boating season. Before you put your boat to bed for the winter, you probably want to clean off all the grime that built up over the summer. Below are some environmental hints to you from the ABA Clean Boating Program.

We want to always practice Clean Boating and Environmental Stewardship.

Boat Cleaning Tips

Reprinted with permission from BoatersWorld.com

Some boat owners go overboard (pardon the pun) when it comes to cleaning their boats. They seem to spend more time scrubbing and polishing their vessels than actually cruising or fishing in them. While keeping a craft clean is definitely an important aspect of boat ownership, it's not necessary to spend long, backbreaking hours to keep your boat looking like new. You simply have to equip yourself with the right tools/products and clean your boat regularly and efficiently. While a little bit of "elbow grease" never hurts, the key is to clean your boat "smarter" not "harder." This means developing an effective cleaning routine, and making this ritual a habit after each trip. The following pointers will help preserve your boat's good looks and protect your valuable recreational asset from the unforgiving marine environment.

Choose the Right Cleaning Equipment

Before selecting your cleaning equipment and products, consider the type of boat you have and its composition. This will ensure that you have the right tools and materials in hand for the job. Choose cleaning brushes that are sturdy and will get rid of stubborn dirt, grime and salt, without damaging the finish or gel coat on your boat. A long, sturdy handle on a scrub brush will allow you to reach hard-to-clean areas without bending down, provide leverage, and help eliminate strain on your back and arms. The brush portion should also be right for the specific application. Don't use a brush that's too rough, or it could damage your boat's finish. For most situations, a brush with medium-soft bristles will do just fine. Whatever type or brand of brush you select, make sure the bristle material is durable and strong enough to withstand repeated use, sun exposure, cleaning agents and salt water. In addition to a good scrub brush, be sure to have other necessities, such as a bucket (large enough for your brush), washing pads, a mop, sponges, chamois cloths and towels handy. Store these items in the same place each time, so you won't have to search for them.

Select a Good, Environmentally-Friendly Soap

For marine use, you'll want to select a soap that will be tough on dirt, grime, salt and fish blood, yet easy on the environment. Don't use the same soap you would for cleaning dishes at home. Instead, select an effective, biodegradable cleaning agent with a neutral pH factor. If you use your craft in salt water, it's especially important to use soap and fresh water to completely remove the corrosive salt build-up that can eat away at your boat. Be sure to follow the written instructions on the cleaning product regarding dilution and general usage. Be aware that certain "super concentrated" detergents may not be suitable for your boat, as these cleansers can strip away and damage finishes when left on for extended periods of time.

These are just a few of the tips and a lot more can be found at the national environmental committee website. [Environmental Committee \(usps.org\)](http://EnvironmentalCommittee.usps.org)





Lt/C Sam Hill, AP

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT



It's hard to believe it's already November 2021. Leaves have changed colors and falling off the trees into your yards and streets. There are more days behind us in 2021 than there are in front of us. Everyone knows, we did not have any in-person meetings this year. Looking into my crystal ball (it's a snow globe), I'm hoping, praying, and rubbing my lucky rabbit's foot (unlucky for the rabbit), 2022 will be a better year for in-person meets.

There was a few opportunities to get together as a club in 2021. We had a few cruises, a salmon bake, and the Christmas Party is on the 5th of December 2021. I understand that not everyone is ready to come out and play. That is very understandable, COVID19 is still here. When you are ready, I challenge you to come out and fellowship with your club members. Being a member of a motorcycle club in the past for 11 years, I understand maximum participation is rare. Usually you see the same faces for almost every events. Let's break that cycle. Take advantage of not only the club meetings, but also other events the club has to offer. The Salmon Bake was a good event this year. The way the salmon was smoked was a first for me. I never seen it smoked like that. The event was outside. I think we did a good job of social distancing. If you wanted to distance yourself more, there was plenty room to do so. We also had cruises that were fun. I went to Poulsbo twice, once by land yacht and once by boat. The town is responsible for my wife buying more decorative items for the house we don't need. I enjoyed myself with the club and we missed you.

I understand not everyone is ready to go to events. COVID19 is real and still out there. The snow has settled down in my crystal ball (I stopped shaking the snow globe). I see a great 2022 in the future. With more members attending more events. Everyone welcome to the fall of 2021. This year is almost over. Happy Holiday season to everyone. Stay safe out there and enjoy the rest of the year.

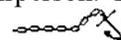


(Commander Report continued from Page 2)

Good planning requires good information. To that purpose, I'd like to request boat owners participate in three initiatives, two routine in nature, the other a new project. First, tell us what kind of classes you'd like to attend in the coming year. Our SEO, Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S is always looking to put together courses and loves to hear from you. Next, tell our Boating Activities Chairperson, LT Cindy Warren, AP, which ports you want to visit and the best dates for the 2022 rendezvous schedule. The final project has come about as a result my attempts to organize this year's cruise we completed in August. I've asked our Data Processing Chairperson, Lorraine Stargel, AP, to put together a fleet data sheet that we will incorporate into the Commencement Bay. In a nutshell, we are looking for various pieces of information about your boat to make it easier to plan a rendezvous or cruise. Knowing the length and beam of you boat allows for easier, more accurate berthing plans. I included a request for MMSIs to facilitate a longer range initiative I'm formulating involving use of digital selective calling (DSC).

Last reminders: P/D/C Christine Rasmussen, SN is wrapping up merit mark submissions for the year. Contact Christine (c@christinerasmussen.com) directly to update or provide new data before November 15.

My last request for this edition - we are still looking for a volunteer to take over as Basic Boating Chairperson. It would be much easier to transition with LT Brenda Williamson, P prior to her undertaking the Great Loop.



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.



*Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S
Sq Education Officer*

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT



*Lt/C Sandi Carroll, SN
Asst. Education Officer*

Better boaters feel more confident on the water, at the helm and in the company of other boaters. They are boaters who boat more, boat more safely and have more fun!

Piloting is continuing with Gary Ball as the instructor. Advance Piloting will begin January 4th for 8 weeks. Gary will also be teaching this class on Tuesdays. In Advance Piloting (Advanced Marine Navigation) you will learn to use manual navigation, radar, chart plotters, AIS, and other electronic tools in a variety of coastal tide, current and wind conditions. Learn course planning, extended cruise navigation, hazard and collision avoidance, and navigational aids. Our experienced instructor with extensive knowledge base makes you a better captain.

Speaking of Gary Ball, we would like to say we nominated him for the Chapman Award for America's Boating Club. Gary came in second in our district, District 16. Way to go Gary!! Thank you for all your work and countless hours of instruction.

We also have America's Boating Course starting November 8 for four evenings, November 8, 11, 15 and 18 via Zoom with the exam on the 22nd. If you know anyone new to boating or needs the Washington state Boater's Card, this is the class to take. Pass the word and the link along to anyone who needs to take this class. Cost for materials is \$40.

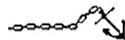
To register for any class go to:

<https://americasboatingclub.org/find-a-course-near-you?zip=98467&range=150>

There are several online courses and seminars you can take at your leisure such as Using Nautical Charts. This seminar teaches you what chart symbols mean, how to recognize hazards above and below the water, and what to look for when planning your route. You'll learn to interpret electronic charts, like those on your GPS, and paper charts in chart books and cruising guides. To learn more go to:

<https://uspsonline.lmscheckout.com/Course/view/using-nautical-charts>

Happy and safe boating!



Annual Christmas Brunch 2021

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's Ballroom. Be sure to bring your children and grandchildren along to meet Santa (he'll have goodies).

Sunday December 5th, 2021 @ 11:00 am
Tacoma Yacht Club - 5401 North Waterfront drive
\$24.00 per person – Children 10 to 6 \$12.00
Children 5 and under free

Please bring an unwrapped gift for a girl or boy ages 3 -18.
Gifts will be donated to "Bridges" a center for grieving children.

Also, please bring canned or nonperishable food items for "Nourish Pierce County."

(If not attending the Christmas Brunch, we will be collecting toys and food in the TYC parking lot from 1:00 pm to 4: 00 pm).

Menu:

Assorted muffins, pastries and petite croissants -
Seasonal fruit display – Bacon and link sausage -
O'Brien potatoes – Scrambled eggs with cheese -
Waffles with fruit toppings and whipped cream -
Chilled juices – Coffee and herbal tea

Please return your reservation form by Nov. 19, 2021
To: Lt/C Jackie Mattox, AP
5105 Grand Loop, Apt 811
Tacoma, WA 98407

Name _____

Phone # _____

Number of adults _____ Number of children 10 and under _____

Names of children who wish to see Santa _____

Please make checks payable to the Tacoma Power Squadron

Total amount enclosed \$ _____



Tacoma Power Squadron General Membership Meeting Minutes 28 September 2021 via Zoom

ROLL CALL (Quorum = 5 Bridge & 5 Board Members, 10% members)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

OFFICER REPORTS

Executive Officer – Lt/C Jim Harden, JN-CN
2021 USPS Fall Governing Board Highlights
VSC

Admin Officer – Lt/C Sam Hill, S (deployed – not present)

Boating Activities – Cindy Warren, AP - Rendezvous at Arabella's will not be happening this year. Cindy would like ideas and places we may want to go the next year.

Membership – Lt/C Jackie Mattox, AP – Since last in-person meeting a year ago. We signed up 21 new members. Have 160 members.

Membership Retention – 85%

Sunshine – Chuck Sharp's had 2 of his son's pass away; hospital stays for Debbie Harden and Richard Mattox: Pat Lemagie to undergo surgery on 10/13; Tim Craig undergoing chemo

Education Officer – Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S

Basic Boating – Need a basic boating chair.

Piloting is going on currently. 10 in the class.

Advanced Piloting in Spring.

Electives – Several classes through the other squadrons. Bellevue has Boat Handling starting mid October. Hybrid, part class and part zoom.

Secretary – Lt/C Beth Stone

- No News to report

Treasurer – P/C Jackie Mattox

Reported financial status of Club funds

Executive Board

- Gary Dildine – not aware of anything going on at this point.

Commander –

Thanks to Brenda & Lance Williamson for the use of their Zoom Account

Merit Mark – P/D/C Christine Rasmussen, SN Due on the end of October.

Galley – Lorraine Stargel, AP – Will need help in the Kitchen at the Oct. meeting. Club will provide all the food. Costco has pre-packed salads at the business center. Send email to Lorraine if you can help out. Jackie is the primary for the pasta. Cindy will check out the desserts at Costco.

(Gen Mbr Mtg Minutes continued on Page 8)

(Gen Mbr Mtg Minutes continued from Page 7)

OLD BUSINESS

- CDr will pass out TPS Summer Cruise ribbons at next in-person meeting. Thanks to those who attended. Thanks to Jenna Ashbrook, P for creating the ribbons. We had from 4 – 9 boats at each stop.
- We hope to move a rack to our rented storage area in Tacoma as we continue to consolidate our property.

NEW BUSINESS

- General Membership meeting = Hoping to resume in-person meeting in October 26th at the Day Island Yacht Club. Jackie Mattox is working with the club on a new contract. Board has voted to feed everyone pasta at the Oct meeting. Obviously, any in-person event is subject to being COVIDed.
- Anselm Chong, one of our newer members has agreed to service on the board filling in for Cathy reed's last year. We thank him for his participation and willingness to serve. There are still several vacancies.
- District is having a cruise in Oct. We have members who are attending it. Six plus stops, all one nighters.
- District conference is on October 9th (Saturday). Have not heard back from District Secretary to receive the Zoom information. Unfortunately, she has been ill, so has not sent it out.
- Christmas Brunch. Planning on it at this time. If not possible, we would like to have another toy and food drive, as we did last year. We can do the drive on a different day other than the brunch, for those of us who cannot attend. Mary Bridge has a list of needed items online and will publish it in the Wake Astern.

Need a Vessel Safety Check?
It's Fast, It's Easy, and best of all,
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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.



**TACOMA POWER SQUADRON
2021 - 2022**

Commander	Cdr Stan Wolfe, SN-CN
Executive Officer	Lt/C James Harden, JN-CN
Administrative Officer	Lt/C Sam Hill, AP
Educational Officer	Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S
Secretary	Lt/C Beth Stone, S
Treasurer	Lt/C Jackie Mattox, AP

COMMANDER'S DEPT

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

EXECUTIVE DEPT

Executive Off	Lt/C James Harden, JN-CN
Safety Off	Vacant
Coop Charting	R/P/C James Harden, JN-CN
VSC Chair	Lt Sue Walker, P
Radio Tech	P/C Andy Temple, AP
Boat Show	Vacant
Legislative	Vacant

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPT

Admin Off	Lt/C Sam Hill, AP
Boating Activities	Lt Cindy Warren, AP
Membership	P/C Jackie Mattox, AP
Mbrship Involvement	P/C Jackie Mattox, AP
Operations Training	Cdr Stan Wolfe, SN, CN
Programs	Lt Barbara Prudente

SECRETARY DEPT

Secretary	Lt/C Beth Stone, S
Web Master	Lt Tom Ferree, S
Newsletter	P/C Richard Mattox, AP
Historian	Vacant
Commencement Bay	P/C Jackie Mattox, AP

TREASURER DEPT

Treasurer	P/C Jackie Mattox, AP
Property Off	Vacant
Ship's Store	P/C Tim(P) & Linda(S) Craig

EXECUTIVE BOARD

1 Yr Term	P/C Gary Dildine, AP, IN
1 Yr Term	Lt Barbara Dildine, AP, IN
1 Yr Term	Lt Anselm Chong
2 Yr Term	P/C Larry Warren, AP
2 Yr Term	Lt Aaron Strasser, S
3 Yr Term	Lt Debbie Wolf
3 Yr Term	Lt Karen Jackson

AUDIT COMMITTEE

1 Yr Term	Lt Leah Hafterson, AP
2 Yr Term	Vacant
3 Yr Term	Lt Tom Ferree, AP

RULES COMMITTEE

1 Yr Term	Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S
2 Yr Term	P/C Mitch Carroll, SN
3 Yr Term	Lt Lorraine Stargel, AP

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

1 Yr Term	P/C Mark Hafterson, AP
2 Yr Term	P/C Richard Mattox, AP
3 Yr Term	P/C Gary Dildine, AP, IN

EDUCATIONAL DEPT

SEO Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S
ASEO Lt/C Sandi Carroll, SN

ABC CHAIR

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

ELECTIVE COURSES

Vacant

ADVANCED GRADES CHAIR

P/C Kevin Kennedy, SN

BRIDGE OFFICERS

Commander
Cdr Stan Wolfe, SN-CN
(253) 536-3309

Executive Officer
Lt/C James Harden JN-CN
(360) 870-5530

Administrative Officer
Lt/C Sam Hill, AP
(360) 280-9204

Educational Officer
Lt/C Bentley Rickmers, S
(253) 566-8105
Lt/C Sandi Carroll, SN

Secretary
Lt/C Beth Stone

Treasurer
Lt/C Jackie Mattox, AP

EXECUTIVE BOARD

P/C Gary Dildine, AP, IN
Lt Karen Jackson
Lt Aaron Strasser, S
Lt Anselm Chong
P/C Larry Warren, AP
Lt Barbara Dildine, AP, IN
Lt Debbie Wolfe

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Cover photo by
Lt Cindy Warren, AP



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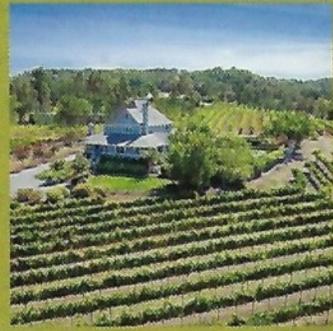
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November 2021

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

December 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 Christmas Brunch @ TYC	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Exec Brd TBD	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day
26 Boxing Day	27	28 No Gen Mtg This Month	29 Deadline for January edition The Wake Astern	30	31	

TACOMA POWER SQUADRON
P.O. BOX 45121
TACOMA WA 98448-0121



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NOVEMBER 2021

