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*Safer Boating Through Education*



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# HARBOR LIGHTS



DEC. 1999

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Volume 16, Issue 5  
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## COMMANDERS MESSAGE

In case you needed reminding, Christmas is only 35 day away at the time I am writing this—less now, as you are reading this. I am sure you are happy to know that.

So many things to do before the big day and the year's end. And, as I am sure you know, we on the Committee are working hard to keep up with the business of the Squadron.

Planning is in the final stages now for the Christmas dinner and Annual Meeting of our Squadron. Invitations have gone out and I hope you all plan to attend. It will be a lovely evening and a good time to meet the officers for the

year 2000. I am happy to report that you will see some new faces, along with a few of our experienced Committee members.

Lainey Volk did an excellent job as our guest speaker at the Squadron Meeting on

Welcome  
to

Marilyn Krabbe

who  
became a member  
of the Squadron  
in November.

November 4. It was a nice evening, a good talk, and we even learned something about emergency medical situations.

I have Squadron pins and burgees available for those of you who may not received yours. You will, however, have to attend a Squadron Meeting and let me know you need one or the other. I will then be happy to present you with either or both. We also have a couple of nametags.

If you have not been to one of our meetings lately, get yourself together and join us. We would love to see you.

Victoria

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### Coming Events

02 December	1800
<b>Christmas Dinner</b>	
San Juan Golf & Country Club	
01 January	0000
<b>The New Year</b>	
Are you Y2K ready?	
04 January	1300
<b>Executive Committee</b>	
Library	
05 January	1800
<b>Squadron Meeting</b>	
Grange Hall	

## SO YOU LIKE TO GO SURFING??

<http://www.uscgboating.org/>

uscg boating.org/....U.S.C.G. Office of Boating Safety

dot.gov/dot info/usch....U.S.Coast Guard home page

USPS.org....United States Power Squadrons:

cgaux.org/....U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

ndbc.noaa.gov/....NOAA Weather information

Regarding up-to-minute sea condition at any given buoy:

westmarine.com/ ....West Marine supplies and general boating tips.

boat.us.com/....Boat US general information

Enjoy!!

## FLOTSAM AND JETSAM

BY FRED HOEPPNER

A pilot program has commenced in the Coast Guard 13th District which allows recreational boaters who possess expired flares to safely dispose of them and receive a 10% discount coupon for new flares.

Bring expired flares to any Coast Guard Station in the 13th Coast Guard District or to any Coast Guard Auxiliary and get a coupon. (Or, save them for our annual Squadron demonstration and personal experience in setting them off.)

**Foghorns Gone.** Pacific Yachting magazine reports that Canadian Coast Guard has decided to discontinue fog signals at Point Atkinson, Trail Islands, Merry Island, Entrance Island, Chrome

Island, Ballenas Island and Sisters Island.

### Notice to Mariners:

18423, 18441, 18464, 18471  
Add Port Townsend Canal Daybeacon  
3. 48°02' 04.2"N 122°44' 01.5"W LNM  
6/99

18400, 18421, 18423, 19429  
Change characteristics of Belle Rock  
Sectorlight to: F/2.5s 22ft 5m 48" 29"  
34.5"N 122°45' 07.9"W LNM8/99

18421, 18423, 18424, 18427  
Relocate Swinomish Channel South  
Entrance Daybeacon 6 to: 48°21'  
45.0"N 122° 32' 56.0"W.

Add Swinomish Channel North En-

trance Buoy 3. Green Can 48°30'  
34.9"N 122° 33' 07.0"W

**Note:** There were numerous buoy changes made in the Swinomish Channel in March. Most were minor relocations, some additions and deletions. I transited the channel in September with no difficulty using an old chart.

**Warning:** Stay mid-channel as much as possible. Keep at least 10 yards inside channel buoys as the buoy anchor is at the plotted position. During low tides, buoys will often be located on dry mud. If you have further interest, please call me.

Fred Hoepner

## Gifts for men

While this may not be exactly nautical, I thought with Christmas coming most of us could use a few ideas for gifts just for him...

1. When in doubt – buy him a cordless drill. It does not matter if he already has one. I have a friend who owns 17 and he has yet to complain. As a man, you can never have too many cordless drills. No one knows why.
2. If you cannot afford a cordless drill, buy him anything with the word ratchet or socket in it. Men love saying those two words. "Hey George, can I borrow your ratchet?" "OK. By-the-way, are you through with my 3/8" socket yet?" Again, no one know why.
3. If you are really, really broke, buy him anything for his car, a 99 cent ice scraper, a small bottle of deicer, or something to hang from his rear view mirror. Men love gifts for their cars. No one knows why.
4. Do not buy men socks. Do not buy men ties. And never, never buy men bathrobes. Once I was told that if God had wanted men to wear bathrobes, he wouldn't have invented Jockey shorts.
5. You can buy men new remote con-

trois to replace the ones they have worn out. If you have a lot of money, buy your man a big-screen TV with the little picture in the corner. Watch him go wild as he flips, and flips, and flips.

6. Do not buy a man any of those fancy liqueurs. If you do, it will sit in a cupboard for 23 years. Real men drink whiskey or beer.

7. Do not buy any man industrial-sized canisters of after shave or deodorant. I'm told they do not stink – they are earthy.

8. Buy men label makers. Almost as good as cordless drills. Within a couple of weeks, there will be labels absolutely everywhere, "Socks. Shorts. Cups. Saucers. Door. Lock. Sink." You get the idea. No one knows why.

9. Never buy a man anything that says "some assembly required" on the box. It will ruin his Special Day and he will always have parts left over.

10. Good places to shop for men include Northwest Iron Works, Parr Lumber, Home Depot, John Deere, Valley RV Center, and Les Schwab Tire. (Auto Parts stores and Sears' Clearance Centers are also excellent.) It doesn't matter if he doesn't know what it is. "From Sears Auto, eh? Must be some-

thing I need. Hey! Isn't his a starter for a '57 Chevy? Wow! Thanks."

11. Men enjoy danger. That's why they never cook – but they will barbecue. Get him a monster barbecue with a 100-pound propane tank. Tell him the gas line leaks. "Oh the thrill! The challenge! Who wants a hamburger?"

12. Tickets to a Sonics game (or the Seattle Ducks!) are a smart gift. However, he will not appreciate tickets to "A Retrospective of 19th Century Quilts." Everyone knows why.

13. Men love chain saws. Never, ever, buy a man you love a chain saw. If you don't know why – please consider what happens when he gets a label maker.

14. It's hard to beat a really good wheelbarrow or an aluminum extension ladder. Never buy a real man a stepladder. It must be an extension ladder. No one knows why.

15. Rope. Men love rope. (especially a ropin' rope!) It takes us back to our cowboy origins....or at least, "The Boy Scouts." Nothing says love like a hundred feet of 3/8" manila rope. No one knows why.

# MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE MEETING

02 november 1999

The meeting was called to order by Cdr Victoria Baker, S at 1300. The new Executive Committee meeting place is the San Juan Island Public Library. Members present were Don Kauffman, AP, Ann Einboden, AP, Lt Ron Einboden, AP, Lt/C Bill Pierson, S, Jim Mitchell, AP, Lt/C Chuck Milne, JN, Lt/C Bill Henderson, S, and Lt/C Jean Mitchell, P.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published in the "Harbor Lights".

It was announced that the next rendezvous with Brentwood Bay Squadron will be held on 28 - 30 July 2000 at Otter Bay.

The Predicted Log Contest for 2000 is set for 15 April.

There was considerable dis-

cussion on procuring name tags for new members.

Education: Chuck Milne, JN reported that Sail class is in progress. Piloting will begin in early January with Dan Wittkopp, AP, instructing. More students are needed for this class.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Pierson, S reported that we are in good shape and passed out the financial report for October 1999.

Membership: Don Kauffman, AP, reported on the results of interviews after the exam for Boat Smart. Ann Einboden, AP, reported that only 11 students took the exam and there were several who made 100%.

Administrative Officer's Report: Bill Henderson, S, reported on tentative plans on

the Christmas Party and a mailing will be sent out with a reservations coupon to be returned as soon as possible.

Ron Einboden, AP, Nominating Committee, reported two changes in nominations. Sam Long for Secretary and Ron Einboden for Executive Committee. Election is in December.

Discussion on procedure for application for Merit Marks. Discussed the copy machine at the County Agent and decided we will not renew our contract for the coming year.

Discussion on having an auction on one of the Pot Luck dinner nights in the early springs.

Meeting adjourned at 1415.

Lt/C Jean E. Mitchell, P  
Secretary

## Bridge Officers

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## Executive Committee

P/C James Spillane, AP  
Lt. James R. Mitchell, AP  
Lt. Ronald J. Einboden, AP  
Lt. Donald Kauffman, AP  
And all Bridge Officers above.

Law Officer:  
Lt. Ronald J. Einboden, AP

Co-op Charting  
P/C Frank Hudson, JN

Safety Officer  
Lt. Ronald J. Einboden, AP

Radio Technical:  
Lt. James R. Mitchell, AP

Port Captain:  
P/C Brian Calvert, S

Chaplain:  
P/C William J. LaPorte, S

## PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE

Jim Mitchell, AP

Preventive is the word you should never ignore. Keep the two words together or else!

This spring when checking the heat exchanger on the engine in my boat, I found that the pencil zinc had not shown the usual erosion. It was still mostly intact and did not need changing (It is recommended that they be changed anytime they are 1/2 gone).

This gave me a false sense of security as I normally check my heat exchanger pencil zinc at least quarterly and usually replace it then. Because the zinc was in good shape, I left it in the ex-

changer and didn't bother checking the zinc during the summer. I was waiting until fall to again make a check. STUPID!!

I started on a short-lived cruise, and soon noticed the engine heat was 20 degrees higher than normal. My first thought - impeller. I returned to port and it was found that the cap on the water pump which is normally held on by 5 screws only had 3 screws still intact. Two of the screws had been eaten by electrical corrosion and fell off instantly when touched.

The remains of the screws were intact in the water

pump and required the removal of the water pump so the remaining parts of the screws could be removed and the pump rebuilt since it was out. The spare water pump I have always kept on board was installed and the raw water system cleaned from the intake to the exhaust to remove sediment of all types.

MORAL: Don't get lured into a false sense of security. Do your preventive maintenance on schedule!

Jim Mitchell, AP