

JANUARY  
2009

Volume 25  
Issue 1

# HARBOR LIGHTS

A monthly report for the members of the United States Power Squadron



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## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE Cdr. Fred Bowen, AP



**W**elcome to 2009!  
We hope you had a happy and safe holiday season.



There are changes in the wind for the United States Power Squadrons. The economy is one problem. The reduction in boat and other marine sales has affected the number of students taking courses, which has affected membership, which has affected USPS income. The number of member courses sold was over 28% less last year. Nationally, membership was down over 7% even though your Squadron was up over 28%, ranked eighth nationally.

Fixes are underway. Efforts have begun in USPS to move from a dues-based organization to a marketing organization in order to increase educational sales. Courses and course materials are being expanded and upgraded. ABC is a new, revamped course. Other courses: Weather, Marine Electrical Systems, and Navigation are complete or nearly complete. New seminars will cover Advanced Powerboat Handling, Rules of the Road, and Marine Compass. This is a positive response to the recent membership survey conducted by the National Planning Committee which showed

that the reasons for joining and remaining a member of USPS were for self-education and fraternity. The same survey rated USPS very high over other activities and urged USPS to continually update and improve the quality of our educational programs and instructors. Your Friday Harbor Power Squadron education programs leadership team with SEO Travis Smith, Asst. SEO Ron Crenshaw, and Public Boating Chair Ann Einboden is the best there is anywhere. In addition, the Squadron has six new USPS Certified Instructors who already have begun assisting in course instruction.

Finally, some areas of suggested improvements are being addressed. USPS is committed to making the running of a squadron easier by simplifying reporting systems, which includes reducing emails and other communications, and is considering reducing—or even ending—the paramilitary/traditional approach to National and squadron activities. All of these actions are designed to improve the benefits of USPS membership and participation in order to have more fun and to be better educated and safer boaters.

**Hang on, 2009 will be a banner year for USPS and your Friday Harbor Power Squadron. The picture above shows how much fun your Commander and XO are having!**



### JANUARY CELEBRATIONS

- New Year's Day 1/1
- Japanese New Year 1/1
- Martin Luther King Day 1/15
- Inauguration Day 1/20
- Republic Day-India 1/26
- Pizza Week 1/7
- School Crossing Guard Week 1/8
- Bath Safety Month
- Blood Donor Month
- Book Blitz Month
- Cosmetology Career Month
- Crime Stopper Month
- Retail Bakers Month
- Soup Month
- National Tea Month
- Diet Month
- Eye Health Care Month
- Gourmet Coffee Month
- Hobby Monty
- Nat'l Clean Your Computer Month
- Oatmeal Month
- Poverty in America Month

### FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS

- Freedom Day 2/1
- Groundhog Day 2/2
- Super Bowl Sunday 2/1
- Valentine's Day 2/14
- Canada Flag Day 2/15
- President's Day 2/19
- Ash Wednesday 2/21
- Lent 2/21
- Polar Bear Day 2/27
- Mardi Gras Week 2/20
- Pancake Week 2/18
- American Heart Month
- American History Month
- Cat Health Month
- Cherry Month
- Children's Dental Health Month
- Chocolate Month
- Dental Month
- Embroidery Month
- Friendship Month
- Grapefruit Month
- Library Lovers Month
- Snack Food Month
- Weddings Month
- Wild Bird Feeding Month



SEO Travis Smith, JN

### Educational Department

### SEO Report January 2009

The current Piloting Course students have started plotting their "Weekend Fishing Trip on Bowditch Bay" which indicates they are past the half-way mark for the nine week class. The last four classes have a major focus on completing a four part "hands-on" exercise with lots of course plotting, finding true and magnetic north, along with 60D=ST ("60 D Street") to determine distance, speed and time.

Once the student grasps the techniques of USPS approved plotting methods, an understanding of how to interpret nautical charts, the identification of navigation aids and the application of various plotting tools, they are well on their way of becoming skippers who will be able to pilot their vessel in case of a possible electronic failure with the GPS or chartplotter. In most cases, without these learned skills, they would not have a clue concerning the location of their vessel. It is just good boating sense to thoroughly understand how to determine your position without having to depend totally on electronics. Using the ship's compass, depth sounder, local and up-to-date charts, and your "seaman's eye," will get you back to home port every time.

The Education Department is presently reviewing what spring courses the Squadron will be offering. Ann Einboden will be presenting the new America's Boating Course (ABC) starting on February 24, 2009. This is a newly revised course was just released from National in late December. Ann has reviewed the student materials and is very excited about the course content. Several Squadron Members will be assisting Ann during the four evenings necessary to cover the course topics. Posters are in place to notify the public about this valuable class for new boaters.

Sign-up sheets were circulated during our last Squadron Meeting to determine interest for Sail, Weather, and a two hour Saturday seminar covering Marine Radar. An E-mail was also sent to Squadron Members who have completed Piloting to inquire about signing up for Advanced Piloting, if offered. The Squadron has 38 Members who have the Grade Pilot (P) and who should be planning to move on to Advanced Pilot (AP). If you were not able to attend January's meeting, please contact me if you have an interest for any of the above mentioned courses.

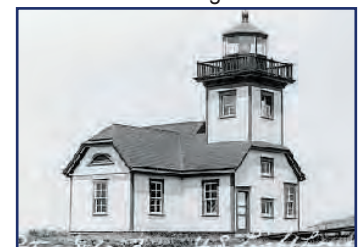
Please log on to the Squadron's web site to check on which future courses will be offered and their starting dates.

### Monthly Meeting

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### 5 February 2009

Patos Island Light House



Our meeting in February will feature a fascinating presentation by Nick Teague from the Bureau of Land Management on the restoration of the Patos Island Light House. Plan to join us for some insight to a chapter of our islands maritime history. Look for details in the meeting announcement which will be posted on our web site.

### Executive Committee Meeting 2 December 2008

#### ATTENDEES:

Cdr. Fred Bowen; XO Carolyn Bowen; SEO Travis Smith; AO Mike Griffin; Treasurer Dan Watson; Secretary Jan Ferro; Member Involvement Chairman Dave Cable; and Safety Officer Ed Ferro.

### A View From The Crow's Nest



### Executive Committee Meeting 6 January 2009

#### ATTENDEES:

Cdr. Fred Bowen; XO Carolyn Bowen; AEO Ann Einboden; Treasurer Dan Watson; Secretary Jan Ferro; Membership Chairman John Towson; VSC Chairman Burke Critchfield; and Safety Officer Ed Ferro.

A summary of Ex/Com Minutes may be obtained by going to our website:

[http://www.fridayharborpowersquadron.com/Squadron\\_Archives/MeetingMinutes/index.htm](http://www.fridayharborpowersquadron.com/Squadron_Archives/MeetingMinutes/index.htm)



AO Mike Griffin, P

Over 65 were in attendance for a wonderful buffet dinner and "lively" auction. The decorations were gorgeous thanks to the talents of Sharon Towson, Lizz Smith, and Carolyn Bowen, and the food was scrumptious thanks to the work of so many of our members including Marc Forlenza, Travis Smith, and Ann and Ron Einboden.

Once again this year the auction was a great success raising \$2150 for our Squadron. Special thanks to all who contributed items, Marc Forlenza for organizing the collection of them and Fred Bowen for serving as our auctioneer extraordinaire once again.

HO ... HO ... HO !  
HOLIDAY PARTY RECAP



Lt. Ed Ferro, P  
Safety Officer



Happy New Year!

Now that we are starting a new year it's time to start preparing for a safe and enjoyable boating season.

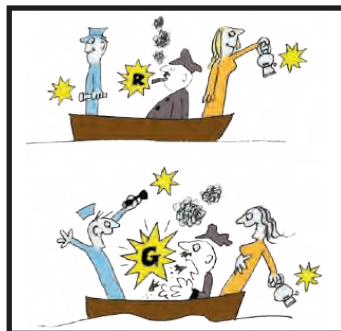
A recent survey of a hundred claims by Seaworthy from articles in Boat U.S., January issue for boat sinkings found that for every boat that sinks "at sea," four sink at the dock. Water found its way into the bilge, through thru-hull fittings. Check stuffing boxes, outdrive bellows, all fittings and hoses, hose clamps, sea strainers, etc. Check self-bailing cockpits to see that scuppers are working and bilge pumps are working properly.

This past year was safe, without serious accidents in our area. Let's keep up the good work. Be safe on and off the water.

### A Sailor's Dictionary

## Navigational Lights

To assist in identification at night, all boats are required to carry various colored lights. Thus, for example, boats for sale display a string of 60-watt bulbs from stem to stern; houseboats are identified by a pair of yellow bug lights, a table lamp, and a small white light in a lantern held by a jockey statuette; and all haunted vessels are bathed in a light green or bluish glow.



### VSC Report

Burke Critchfield, AP  
VSC Chair



Vessel Inspections

The new year is here and it is time to remember to arrange for your 2009 Vessel Inspection. We did well last year, with your cooperation, and we ranked #2 with the number of inspections in the District. This year (while supplies last) we are giving a free rain gear after each inspection. Thank you again for your help. Please contact any of the vessel inspectors for an appointment.

O'er the glad waters of the dark blue sea, our thoughts as boundless, and our souls as free.  
Lord Byron



## DECEMBER AND JANUARY MEETINGS A GREAT SUCCESS

The climate outside may have been cold and inhospitable but the atmosphere inside during our past two meetings was just the opposite.... warm and friendly.

Our past two meetings were enjoyed by all in attendance and each a great success each in their own right.



AO Mike Griffin, P

### Capt. Richard Rodriguez



### January Membership Meeting

With over 50 members and guests in attendance, we were treated to an educational and entertaining presentation by Captain Richard Rodriguez on his experiences and lessons learned as skipper of a Vessel Assist tug. Richard maintains a very active Blog on all things maritime. You may wish to visit at <http://captrichardrodriguez.blogspot.com>. In addition, Kerwin and Margaret Johnson were sworn in as new members during our January meeting.

### Kerwin and Margaret Johnson



All rules quoted in this quiz are international as these are the applicable rules for all the areas that you are likely to sail in.

### NAUTICAL QUIZ

A vessel constrained by her draft may display:

- A. Three all round red lights instead of the lights required for a power driven vessel of her class,
- B. The same lights as a vessel restricted in her ability to maneuver,
- C. Three all round red lights in addition to the lights required for a power driven vessel of her class,
- D. The lights of a power driven vessel which is not under command.

The correct answer will be given as a BOLD letter to be found somewhere in the Harbor Lights.

Courtesy of Fred Hoepfner



### JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Katherine Close  
David Good  
Wayne Jack  
Albert Nash  
Doug Ray  
Athlene Schneider  
Sid Schneider  
John Towson  
Megan Vivencio  
Jack Yelverton

### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Bob Bailey  
Sue Corenman  
Sue Cornett  
Bruce Hoeller  
Michael Hoeller  
Fred Hoepfner  
Pat Penwell  
Rich Peterson  
Jacqueline Scherer  
Thomas Thomson  
Sharon Towson  
John Van Hoecke  
Laura Westmiller

### PLEASE WELCOME ABOARD



**LUKE FURBER**, an avid sailor, completed the FHPS fall Boating Class in 2008 and prior ASA sailing classes. Luke, his wife Jennifer and two very young daughters moved to Friday Harbor from Whidbey Island. Luke is employed as a lineman at OPALCO. He has a San Juan 26 named Elizabeth Rose.....Favorite hobbies include fishing, telemark skiing, reading books about ambitious sailors and planning a future south of the equator sailing trip. He enjoys reading the free classified in Wooden Boat, Dove, Ice by Tristian Jones, and dreams of enough time and know-how to rescue a beauty from the wooden boat rescue foundation.

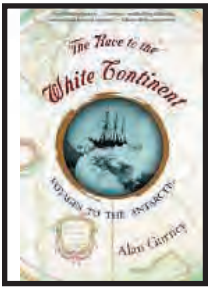


### Membership Department

John Towson  
Chairman

### PLEASE WELCOME ABOARD

**KERWIN AND MARGARET JOHNSON** have decided to get back into boating and recently purchased a 27" Seasport Adventurer power boat.....currently with no name. They plan to enroll in the next FHPS boating class. The Johnson's have lived in Friday Harbor 24 years and are the owners of Islanders Insurance. They say their boating stories are too embarrassing to put in writing



## THE RACE TO THE WHITE CONTINENT By Alan Gurney

P/C Keith Van Cleve, AP

Near the time our Revolutionary War was simmering James Cook was involved in the second of three circumnavigations of the globe. On January 30, 1774, in the Resolution, Cook was halted by the Antarctic ice barrier at 71° 15'S latitude the farthest south any ship had sailed to that time. With the subsequent circumnavigation of southern waters around Antarctica, he determined there was no habitable southern continent. On his third voyage in search of a Northwest or Northeast passage through Arctic ice to the Atlantic Cook lost his life in Hawaii. By 1823 sealer James Wedell had reached 74° 15' in a clear polar sea. Obviously, climatic differences among seasons mattered a great deal! Maps drawn of the area south of latitude 72° showed a huge blank labeled the Antarctic Ocean. Since Cook's time coastline and offshore islands had been discovered primarily by sealers hunting elephant and fur seals. By the 1830s these animals had been virtually exterminated from the area.

The dominance of discoveries by sealers was to change during the coming decade. During the 1830s American, British and French national expeditions were sent out to attack Cook's farthest south. The adventures, failures and successes of these efforts is well presented in "The Race to the White Continent, Voyages to the Antarctic" by Alan Gurney (2000, W. W. Norton).

The three national expeditions were headed by Dumont D'Urville for France, Charles Wilkes for the United States and James Clark Ross for England. The old militaristic attitudes were replaced by commercial, political and scientific interests. However, navigating these far southern waters under sail was an arduous, dangerous undertaking. Unpredictable and severe, cold weather are common. Living conditions including diet on these sailing vessels were substandard especially for the crew. In addition, navigating to avoid ice bergs and avoiding being trapped by flow ice in stormy conditions was a supreme challenge to captain

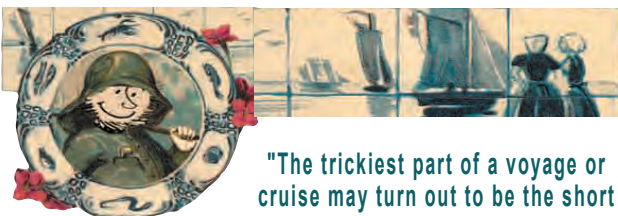
and crew of these sailing vessels. Regardless of advances including steam powered vessels, the Antarctic ice pack was a formidable adversary as witnessed by the loss of Endurance on Shackleton's 1914-1916 expedition.

The French expedition, under D'Urville, was under way from Toulon in September, 1837 sailing for South America. Since the north magnetic pole was discovered by English in 1831, to the French the opportunity to better their old rival England in the quest for the south magnetic pole was like a bear and honey. As well, potential commercial opportunities were attractive in addition to scientific endeavors.

The US Exploring Expedition was much more than an Antarctic adventure. It included charting of areas of the coastal Pacific Northwest and South Pacific. For years following the Expedition mariners relied on charts of the US Exploring Expedition. British and French governments incorporated Wilkes surveys into charts issued by their hydrographic offices. During the 1920s the U.S. Navy still used Wilkes charts of the Pacific.

The British expedition, in the Antarctic from 1840 to 1842, was under command of James Clark Ross, had two vessels the Erebus and Terror. The Terror was an Arctic veteran. Ross had Arctic experience with his uncle John Ross when they discovered the North magnetic pole on an earlier expedition in 1831. Both vessels were well constructed for the rigors of confronting the Antarctic ice pack and for living quarters for the crew. By the beginning of February 1841 the expedition was beyond 74°20'S and sighted an active Volcano near 79°S they named Mt. Erebus. They were in the vicinity of McMurdo Sound, the location of one of the modern day U.S. Antarctic bases. The south magnetic pole was calculated to be approximately 160 miles west of their location but was not visited on the ground. After wintering in New Zealand, on the second voyage on February 23, 1842 Ross reached 78°10'S. Both of Ross' records, north and south would stand for more than half a century.

### THE BILGE OF SEAFARING LORE



"The trickiest part of a voyage or cruise may turn out to be the short leg between any harbor entrance and dock, both on the way in and the way out."

C

CARLETON MITCHELL

### "MANY HELPING HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK"

Join in on the fun ...

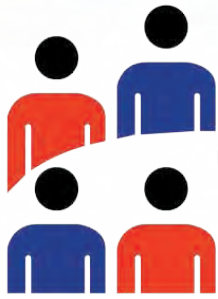
Lighten the work load ...

We would appreciate help!

- Change of Watch  
2 April 2009
- Monthly Meetings  
Table set up-take down
- Pocket Cruise  
(Plans are in the works)

Share your enthusiasm  
& expertise with our Squadron!  
(Call Cdr. Fred Bowen 378-5445  
or send an e-mail to  
[fred@fbowenassociates.com](mailto:fred@fbowenassociates.com))

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**USPS District 16 Spring Conference and Change of Watch  
DoubleTree Suites  
Seattle – Southcenter, Washington  
27-29 March 2009**

*The Seattle Sail and Power Squadron invites you to the  
USPS 2009 District 16 Spring Conference and Change of Watch.*

Home for the District 16 2009 Spring Conference and Change of Watch will be the DoubleTree Suites adjacent to the recently remodeled Southcenter Shopping Mall during the last weekend in March 2009. Good company, scintillating conversation, knowledgeable speakers, exciting tours, and memorable food await you. The DoubleTree Suites are in a prime location to serve as a base for exploring much this area has to offer. Optional tours of either the Museum of Flight or the Weyerhaeuser Botanical Gardens (Rhododendron Species Foundation Gardens and adjacent Weyerhaeuser Bonsai Garden) have been arranged. The Museum of Flight is a great place for children with lots of activities and learning opportunities and the gardens provide a unique and tranquil experience, belied by their proximity to I-5.

A registration form is included in the Harbor Lights and also may be found on the district website at: [www.usps.org/localusps/d16/](http://www.usps.org/localusps/d16/). Attendees are asked to pre-register, and may choose one or more of the catered meals. The conference itself is free. Events include a Friday evening no host cocktail reception with light hors d'oeuvres where one may meet Chief Commander Creighton Maynard's representative. Saturday will begin at 0800 with breakfast meetings for the Squadron Commanders, Executive Officers, Educational Officers, and other incoming Squadron Officers. There will also be a good buffet breakfast for general attendees if desired. The conference will be called to order at 0930, Saturday 28 March 2009. A hosted social hour will be held prior to the banquet Saturday evening. Tickets for this event will be provided in your registration packets. The hotel room rate is guaranteed up to 6 March 2009 at \$109/night plus taxes. Make your hotel reservation by 6 March 2009 and you will be included in a drawing for a free overnite stay at the DoubleTree Suites at Southcenter. When making your reservation, refer to USPS D16 Spring Conference, GROUP CODE D16 to get the special room rate.

You are invited to bring your laptop to the DB2000 presentation Saturday afternoon

To help defray the cost of the conference, SSAPS has been holding a fundraiser. T-shirts and sweatshirts displaying the District and squadron burgees are available for pre-order. It is not too late to order. Please go to the D16 website ([www.usps.org/localusps/d16/](http://www.usps.org/localusps/d16/)) to see photos of items for sale and to download an order form with instructions for ordering. To avoid shipping costs, specify delivery at the 2009 Spring Conference. Mail your order by 6 March 2009 to the address provided on the downloaded order form. The D16 mugs will be available at the conference and may be purchased onsite without preordering.



**REGISTRATION FORM**  
**District 16 Spring Conference Meeting & Change of Watch**  
**27 – 29 March 2009**  
**Seattle, Washington**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Squadron: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Please include rank and/or grade)

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/Guest name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address for Confirmation of Registration and Payment \_\_\_\_\_

First time attending a district conference? Yes \_\_\_\_\_

Please Note: This is an activity registration form. There is no charge for attending conference meetings.  
 Early Bird prices apply for reservations postmarked no later than March 6, 2009.  
 Regular prices apply to reservations postmarked after March 6, 2009 (Space Avail)

Activity	Early Bird	Regular After 3/6/09	No. People	Total
Friday Reception – 1900				
No Host Cocktails, hors d'oeuvres	\$20	\$22	_____	\$ _____
Saturday Officer Breakfast Meetings - 0800				
Commander/Exec Officer	\$18	\$20	_____	\$ _____
Educational Officer/ASEO	\$18	\$20	_____	\$ _____
All other incoming Squadron Officers	\$18	\$20	_____	\$ _____
P/D/C – Order from Hotel Menu in reserved area				
All Other attendees	\$18	\$20	_____	\$ _____
Saturday Alternative Activity				
Boeing Museum of Flight	\$35	\$38	_____	\$ _____
Weyerhaeuser Bonsai Gardens	\$30	\$33	_____	\$ _____
Saturday Conference Luncheon: Open to All				
Salad and Potato Buffet Bar	\$22	\$25	_____	\$ _____
Saturday Evening Social Hour Complementary			_____	
Saturday Evening Banquet (Both entrees include dessert)				
Mesquite Roasted Breast of Chicken (Pineapple Salsa & Polenta)	\$36	\$40	_____	\$ _____
Apple Filled Pork Loin	\$36	\$40	_____	\$ _____
Dietary Restrictions _____	\$36	\$40	_____	\$ _____
Total (In US Funds)				\$ _____

Make reservations directly with Doubletree Guest Suites (Southcenter) not later than Friday, March 6, 2009.  
 Mention USPS D16 Spring Conference, GROUP CODE D16 to get the conference rate of \$109 plus 12.4% tax.  
 For Hotel Reservations Payment and Conference Reservations  
 Call: (206) 575-8220 Mail this form and payment in US funds;  
 Or Central Reservations 1-800-222-8733 Mail to: P/C William Field, AP  
 Or by mail to: Doubletree Guest Suites 11201 – 3rd Ave SE, #40-D, Everett, WA 98208  
 16500 Southcenter Parkway (206) 319-8163 farafield32@msn.com  
 Seattle, WA 98188 Make checks payable to D16 Spring Conference

Hotel questions? Call them directly at the local telephone number given above  
 For other questions, contact: - P/C Barbara Reine, AP (206) 547-7391 email – sunnyside2@clearwire.net

# FRIDAY HARBOR POWER SQUADRON

# District 16

## SAIL AND POWER BOATING

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Dedicated to Education



## Friday Harbor Power Squadron Newsletter



## Volume 25 Issue 1 January 2009

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ENJOY !

### COMING EVENTS

#### FEBRUARY

- 3rd 1300  
ExCom Meeting Library
- 5th 1800  
General Meeting  
Grange
- 7th  
D16 Spring Council  
Agate Pass
- 16th - 21st  
USPS Annual Meeting  
Anaheim, CA

#### MARCH

- 3rd 1300  
ExCom Meeting Library
- 5th 1800  
General Meeting  
Grange
- 27th - 29th  
D16 Spring Conference  
Seattle
- 31st 1300  
ExCom Meeting Library

#### APRIL

- 2nd  
Change of Watch-General Meeting