

# HARBOR LIGHTS



The newsletter of the Friday Harbor Power Squadron  
a unit of the United States Power Squadrons®

VOLUME 26 - ISSUE 5 - December 2010

## Commander's Message - Carolyn Bowen, P



It hardly seems possible that we are already preparing to close the door on this calendar year. However, a closed door is opportunity to open the next one and I do look forward to opening the door on 2011 and the unique opportunities in store for this squadron next year.

Reflecting back over the year, we have had some great guest speakers at our potluck meetings. Terry Whalen of A-1 Marine Services, spoke at our October meeting on the Derelict Vessel Program (or lack of any existing program). As a result of that evening, FHPS initiated one of the largest community projects this squadron has ever undertaken, thanks to XO Marc Forlenza, AP, and his tireless efforts to mobilize us and others to revitalize this languishing program. FHPS offered the first donation of \$1,000, and it has snowballed from there to include other organizations on the island to reach a required sum of \$5,000 to get the County to reinstate this program into the budget. Last month's program featured our very own members, Ron and Ann Einboden, who took us on a PowerPoint excursion to some of their favorite destinations and fishing spots spanning Barkley Sound to Queen Charlotte Strait and the Broughton Archipelago. We learned a lot!

Some of the memorable highlights this year included our Spring picnic to Turn Island aboard the Pintail, which just happened to be a postcard perfect day. We will consider that picnic venue again next year! Another was our 4th of July parade entry. Never will we forget Ed Ferro maneuvering his 28' boat and trailer thru the Convalescent Hospital parking lot. We plan to do the parade again next year but maybe not the parking lot part.

Speaking of next year, we have some unique opportunities planned. In February, we will host the D16 Council meeting right here on the island. This will be your opportunity to meet and greet some of the very special folks, not only on the D16 Bridge, but also members of other squadrons in D16.

We're also working on putting together some joint ventures with other squadrons in 2011. Many of you have already signed up for our Institute of Ocean Sciences (IOS) trip next Spring (50 of you currently) with date and logistics still to be determined. This is a direct result of a partnering opportunity with Cdr. Len Burton and his Canadian Brentwood Bay Sail & Power Squadron. Another outing in the planning stages is to rendezvous with our neighbors to the North, Bellingham Sail & Power Squadron, for a joint cruise to Blakely Island sometime in the late Spring timeframe.

In summary, this squadron is doing great and is well respected within D16. We are currently in second place in Membership standings and first place in VSCs. We are in a very competitive position and I am proud to be your commander and very proud of this squadron.

Have a happy and safe holiday season!

## Safety Officer - Ed Ferro, P



A reminder concerning the power cords we use on our boats. Before disconnecting the cord, shut off the power at the source, using the switch on the dock box. A circuit that is open will carry amperage resulting in arcing between contacts resulting in erosion of the cord and a possible fire.

On disconnecting a cord, the first step is cut off the power! On reconnecting power cords, the last step is to turn on the power source.

The Coast Guard Boating Statistics for 2009 showed a decrease in reported boating accidents nationwide. There were 736 deaths and approximately 36 million dollars in property damage. The State of Washington recorded 22 deaths equal to the year 2008. Washington and Oregon had the highest number of accidents resulting in collisions with other recreational boaters. Close to 75% of the 736 deaths were drowning and of those, 84% were not wearing life jackets. For the few seconds it takes to don a life jacket, don't become a Coast Guard statistic. Be safe and sound out there and be courteous to other boaters.

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## Public Boating Course - Ann Einboden, AP



Congratulations to the following students of the latest America's Boating Course: Mike Clark, Bruce Galton, Phil Coose, Claudia Coose, Gay Wilmerding, Stephen Rockstroh, John Ryan, Betsy Cooper, Roger deRoos, Carol Hooper, Art Smith, Todd Gardner and Kit Pingree. Also, "thank you" to our talented and knowledgeable instructors and assistants: P/C Travis Smith, SN, P/C Marc Forlenza, AP, Lt. Ed Ferro, P, Mike Griffin, AP, Susan Ley, AP, Jan Ferro, AP and Lt. John Towson.

Our next ABC class will be in early Spring.

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## Education Officer's Message - P/C Travis Smith, SN



The Marine Electrical Systems Class has just finished with six members completing the intense and hands-on course taught by "Mr. Electricity" himself, Mike Close. Each of the students gained valuable knowledge concerning their boat's electrical systems and how to troubleshoot. Mike had the students practicing their soldering and wiring techniques, whereas, on any given Tuesday or Wednesday evening, if you happened to stop by Mike's shop while the class was meeting, you would find class members arranged around a table with volt meters, pliers, screw drivers, wires, connectors, heat guns, etc., receiving instructions which will save them lots of money in the future. The exams have been sent to HQ and should be graded and returned around mid November. Thanks Mike for sharing your knowledge and class-room facilities for another outstanding MES Course.

The Fall Piloting Course is in full swing and half-way through the eight week course with eleven students learning traditional plotting methods using the ship's compass and paper charts, along with modern electronic techniques using GPS, chart-plotters and computers with navigational software to

determining a vessel's position. Navigation begins with knowing where you are, particularly when cruising in new waters. Using the GPS receiver to provide information with great precision in the form of latitude and a longitude, the Piloting Students have mastered the technique of transcribing them onto a chart to identify their location, along with determining a safe path. P/C's Marc Forlenza, AP and Travis Smith, SN are the course presenters and share with the students their sea stories and cruising experiences.

Advanced Piloting will be offered in the spring. All Squadron Members who have completed Piloting should plan to sign up for Advanced Piloting which continues to build on the base developed in Piloting and includes practical use of additional electronic navigation systems along with other advanced techniques for finding position.

The Squadron's planned visit to the Canadian Institute of Ocean Sciences, located in Sidney, B.C., presently has nearly 50 members signed up to make the one day tour. We are currently working with the IOS Staff to determine the best day and times to tour the facilities in either late April or early May, when weather and water conditions are more favorable. Please E-mail Commander Carolyn Bowen (carolyn@fbowenassociates.com) and have her add your name to the "sign-up sheet" which is also circulated during each Squadron Meeting, if you would like to be part of this "once-in-a-life-time" event.

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### **Proposed Slate of Bridge Officers and Executive Committee for 2011-2012 Carolyn Bowen, P**

At the December general meeting, the Nominating Committee, chaired by P/C Fred Bowen, presented its proposed slate of Bridge Officers and Executive Committee members for 2011-2012. The Commander then asked for nominations from the floor. Since there were no nominations from the floor, it was moved and seconded to accept the slate by acclamation. The motion was accepted unanimously. The officers and Executive Committee members for next year will be installed at the general meeting in April 2011. Appointed committees and positions will also be announced at that time. The elected positions are as follows:

Commander.....	P/C Fred Bowen, AP
Executive Officer.....	P/C Marc Forlenza, AP
Administrative Officer.....	Bruce Galton
Educational Officer.....	P/C Travis Smith, SN
Secretary.....	Carolyn Haugen, S
Treasurer.....	Dan Watson, S
Executive Committee.....	P/C Carolyn Bowen, P Burke Critchfield, P Ann Einboden, AP
Rules Committee.....	Ron Einboden, AP
Auditing Committee.....	Lizz Divers-Smith, S
Nominating Committee.....	P/C Carolyn Bowen, P
Asst. Ed. Officer.....	P/C Marc Forlenza, AP
Asst. AO.....	Open
Asst. Secretaries.....	Denece Kost, Judi Mio
Asst. Treasurer.....	Joyce Ragsdale

FHPS wishes to thank these exceptional members for accepting the leadership positions. We will have a strong team next year, and we are delighted that it includes some new and quite capable members.

## Press Release - P/C Marc Forlenza, AP



### *Local Groups Join to Resurrect Program to Clean-up Derelict Vessels from San Juan Waters... Before They Sink*

Help is on the way for efforts to round up and dispose of derelict vessels before they sink. Several groups have pitched in with donations to resurrect a previously shelved Derelict Vessel Program in San Juan County, where there are approximately 19 abandoned vessels around the islands needing attention.

In spearheading this effort the Friday Harbor Power Squadron is joined by the Common Sense Alliance, Roche Harbor, San Juan Island Yacht Club, Island Marine Center on Lopez, and Jensen's Shipyard. These Local groups (of private citizens and businesses) have united in a display of community spirit to raise the minimum funds necessary to assist the County in reviving the program that ceased operations in December 2008 due to lack of funding.



Boating is a treasured part of life for residents and visitors in the San Juan Islands and vessels of all types are harbored in our waters, including vessels that have become run down to the point of sinking and boats that have been abandoned by their owners. These boats cause problems when they sink or go aground.

They often contain oil, fuel, and other hazardous chemicals that pollute the water. When they break apart, trash and debris litter the beaches as well as contaminate the water. Sinking and sunken boats also cause hazards to navigation. There are currently 5 boats in immediate need of towing in San Juan Island waters, with several more being close to derelict status. Interestingly, the Department of Natural Resources only funds the recovery of vessels after they have sunk, and by this time the pollution damage is well underway.

“Removing a derelict vessel before it sinks just makes common sense. It prevents toxic contaminants from polluting our waters and threatening marine life,” said Marc Forlenza, Executive Officer of the Friday Harbor Power Squadron; while Dave Cable, Executive Director of the Common Sense Alliance reiterated, “We’re not just talking about saving the marine environment, we are intent upon doing it.”

According to San Juan County Auditor F. Milene Henley, “Removing a sunken vessel can cost as much as \$86,000 to salvage.” The cost of towing, crushing and disposing or recycling a boat before it sinks can be considerably less. According to Terry Whalen of A-1 Marine, Friday Harbor, the cost may be as much as ten times less if action is taken before sinking. “The last boat we hauled up in Hunter Bay cost \$120k to salvage. We could have towed it in, hauled and crushed it for \$10-15k, saving more than \$100k. You can clean up a lot of old boats for a hundred grand, if you get them before they sink.”

The funds raised by private groups are to be matched 1:1 by the County and 10:1 by the State through the Department of Natural Resources. According to the auditor, the County and State matching funds would be made available to a contractor or contractors who would operate the program locally. Also stepping up in support of the Program, is the Port of Friday Harbor, who will make an in kind (non-cash) contribution of temporary dock space and pumps etc for derelict vessels in transit to final processing.

Auditor F. Milene Henley has committed to presenting the issue of funding to the County Council in time for consideration in 2011 Budget. Additional donations from all private parties are welcome. Contact Marc Forlenza at the Friday Harbor Power Squadron. [getmarc@aol.com](mailto:getmarc@aol.com)

## Ring in the Holidays! - Carolyn Bowen, P

This evening was an affair to remember and I am sorry for those who missed out! Our bells were definitely ringing at our annual Holiday Party and auction on December 2nd. We had an energized group of 66 members and 2 guests to enjoy the festivities. The buffet table was laden with a generous assortment to please everyone's palate. We began the evening with socializing and eating (always most important) before jumping into a brief meeting. A major focus of our meeting was the announcement of next year's Bridge and Executive Committee. The Bowens are exchanging stuff again with P/C Fred Bowen stepping back up to lead our squadron and Cdr. Carolyn Bowen stepping down after two years. Renaissance will continue to fly the Commander's burgee! Rest assured, we have a very strong team for 2011-2012. Also of major significance, P/C Marc Forlenza announced that the County approved the budget for 2011-2012 to include the reinstatement of the Derelict Vessel Program. This is HUGE. This is the first major community project that Friday Harbor Power Squadron has caught the ball and run with, thanks to P/C Marc Forlenza. With our donation and the generous donations of several other private donors and organizations on the island, a program that has ceased to exist for the last two years due to lack of funds has been kick started. This was the impetus that drove our auction. Members were generous with their bidding for we are fighting for a cause—the money that we have already donated and the money that will be donated in the future to keep this program on track.

As always, I am so very proud of this squadron and my buttons were bursting on this particular evening. We raised \$3,600; we laughed at auctioneer P/C Fred Bowen and his "Vanna White", Carol Good, with her sweet talking Southern accent and lap sitting, and we came together in our efforts to prepare food, decorate, set tables, and keep things going. I am eternally grateful to all who helped in this effort. Merry Christmas everyone! I know next year will be great but how can it get any better?



# FRIDAY HARBOR POWER SQUADRON

Join us at the USPS District 16  
SPRING COUNCIL 2011



In Beautiful Downtown Friday Harbor, WA  
Location: The San Juan Island Yacht Club

**237 Front Street (It's a short walk from ferry)**

Proposed Winter 2011 Ferry Schedule

Ferry Departs Anacortes 9:05 AM—Arrives Friday Harbor 10:45 AM

Ferry Departs Friday Harbor 4:30 PM—Arrives Anacortes 5:35 PM

*Hosted by the Friday Harbor Power Squadron*



Saturday, 12 February 2011

Registration	11:00 AM
Call to Order:	11:30 AM
Luncheon:	12:30 – 1:00 PM
Adjourn:	3:45 PM

Contact: Cdr Carolyn Bowen, P

Info: 360-378-5445

[www.fridayharborpowersquadron.com](http://www.fridayharborpowersquadron.com)

[carolyn@fbowenassociates.com](mailto:carolyn@fbowenassociates.com)

Registration Deadline: February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011 (for luncheon)

Name/Squadron \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/email \_\_\_\_\_

Catered Luncheon will include Lasagna, Salad, Roll and Dessert  
*Coffee provided during the day*

Please check one:  Meat Lasagna  Vegetable Lasagna  
 Reservations @ \$16.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to Friday Harbor Power Squadron

Send to: Cdr Carolyn Bowen P, Post Office Box 1565, Friday Harbor, WA 98250

## The Latest and Greatest from D16 Cooperative Charting Committee

Everyone did such a great job for the reporting year ending March 31, 2010. Are you up for another **Challenge**?

Nod your head up and down.

The D16 Cooperative Charting Committee, with help from some of Agate Pass members, has put together a list of possibilities for your squadron. Should you accept the **Challenge** you can use these suggestions. Or expand on your own.



We have taken a look at what would be reasonable for your squadron's area, checked the charts and Coast Pilot so you will have a head start in putting together your reports.

The rules are simple: Submit as many reports with as many points available prior to the March 15, 2011 deadline.

The object is to get each D16 squadron on the 2011 NOS – USPS National Cooperative Charting Honor Roll, with as many individuals on the Honor Roll as well.

For those of you who accept and meet the **Challenge** there will be recognition and celebration at D16 2011 Spring Conference. You know the fun we had last year....we're cooking up something even better.

All the details will be in hand outs provided at the D16 Fall Council and Conference in Tacoma on October 29-30. This information will also be posted on the D16 web site Coop Charting page.

Head 'em up and roll 'em out!

P/C Inez Schwartz, JN  
D16 CoCh Chair

Chuck Leavitt, SN  
D16 Asst CoCh Chair



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!!!

December	January	February
3 Greg Simon	2 Tom Barrett	2 Virgil Boyt
4 Mike Chadwick	2 Claudia Coose	3 Bruce Hoeller
10 William Egan	2 Kerwin Johnson	4 Michael Hoeller
13 Kathy Chadwick	3 Suzy Wakefield	4 Rich Peterson
14 Caroline Close	8 Jack Yelverton	5 Jim Hooper
14 Patti Douglas	9 Katherine Close	7 Sharon Towson
19 Calvin Paulson	11 Linda Lush	7 Fred Hoepfner
24 Don Ragsdale	13 Doug Ray	15 Tom Thomson
26 Craig Green	16 Tom Donnelly	20 Sue Corenman
29 Rock Sorensen	20 Joann Aberle	20 Dan Paulson
	23 Dave Good	21 Patricia Penwell
	28 Carol Good	24 Sue Cornett
	28 Megan Vivenzio	27 John Aberle
	30 Athlene Schneider	27 John Van Hoecke
	31 Sid Schneider	29 Bob Bailey
	31 John Towson	

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# Merry Christmas!



## Save the date

First potluck dinner meeting of 2011

Thursday, January 6, at the Grange

New member, Henry Wendt, will present "Mapping the Pacific Coast"

**Please plan to join us!**



**Harbor Lights is the newsletter of the Friday Harbor Power Squadron**  
Editor - David M. Good, AP

Email comments, corrections, or content to: [editor@fridayharborpowersquadron.com](mailto:editor@fridayharborpowersquadron.com)