

**Friday Harbor Power Squadron
October General Meeting
October 4, 2007**

Cdr. Marc Forlenza, called the meeting to order at 1817. There were 36 members present along with 9 guests and our speaker Jon Larson, Marine Investigator, at the Grange Hall. The Invocation was given by Bruce Hall followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Lt. Burke Critchfield.

For the Squadron Officer's Reports Executive Officer Lt. Cdr. Fred Bowen deferred his information on the Christmas Party for New Business.

Squadron Educational Officer Lt. Cdr. Ann Einboden was happy to report a record 44 students taking the Squadron Boating Class on Tuesdays held at the Yacht Club. The Piloting class will be starting in November and taught by Ann and P/C Travis Smith, JN. Ann sent around a sign up sheet and has since reported that she has 20 signed up with 11 of them from the boating class. Also planned is Cruise Planning as a self study course with a couple of meetings for orientation and review. She has suggested the invaluable manual at \$35 is a good reference for a Christmas Gift and something to have on board your boat. She sent around a sign up for this elective class.

Administrative Officer Lt. Cdr. Carolyn Bowen Reported the success of the Committee Fair signups by Mike Griffin for the Membership Involvement Committee.

Treasurer – Lt. Cdr. Dan Wittkopp reported that the squadron is ahead of the annual budget even after the purchase of the new computer and has about \$6,000.

Secretary – Lt. Cdr. Jan Ferro thanked Carolyn Bowen for filling in to take minutes at the Picnic.

VSC & Safety Committee Chair Lt. Burke Critchfield was introduced as Marc made the statement that every FHPS member with a boat should have a current VSC Inspection and poor excuses could result in keel hauling. Burke reminded the members that our purpose is to promote safety on the water, through Ann's excellent instruction and all members should have a Vessel Safety Check, even though it is now Fall it will really help the examiners in the Spring for the 2008 stickers.

Membership Chairmen, Lt. John Towson mentioned that we had new members Jack and Ann Yelverton and Attorney Kathy Marshall with us this evening. He also now has Ellen Johnson helping him with membership.

In the absence of Mike Griffin, Marc reported that the Membership Involvement Committee now includes Mike and Jean Griffin, Dave and Jane Cable, Bruce and Diane Hall and Mac and Patti Douglas and as a group have already held a productive meeting with new and fresh ideas. They want activities that include education and safety practice. They hope the squadron will participate in the opening day parade with decorated boats and possibly the

Night Lighted Parade at Christmas. A pocket cruise with a possible Treasure Hunt was looked at. They hope people will begin to recognize what we do and that we have a good time.

Nominating Committee Chairman P/C Travis Smith was in class, so Marc announced that the open positions for 2007-2008 are Treasurer, Website Maintenance, which takes a knowledge of Microsoft Front Page and Assistant Administrative Officer who will be helping Mike Griffin

Recognitions were made of our guests from the Squadron Boating Class: Fred and Linda Schuerman, Kathy Marshall, Larry Teeter and Pam Hocking, Tom and Andrea Douglas, and Albert and Janice Blaylock.

New Members since September 2007 were not inducted as Marc had been unable to locate the pledge

A future Harbor Lights newsletter publisher needs to be found as Lizz Smith, after 5 years is ready to pursue other endeavors. The paper has 6 issues per year.

Christmas Dinner will be at SJIYC December 6, 2007 with Dan and Pat Wittkopp again heading the committee to put on the dinner. The cost will be \$20. Auction Items are needed and we already have the condo at Westport donated by Bob and Toni Bailey.

Other Business: Next General Meeting: Thursday November 1, 2007 at the Grange. Two more members came in to hear our speaker.

The business portion of the meeting was adjourned as John Larson, was introduced as the speaker. He is the Marine Investigator for the Sheriff's department and works out of the Prosecuting Attorney's office. He has Captain's papers, is a member of the Coast Guard Auxiliary, active on Lopez Island and currently working to promote safety on the water. His first work with our group was to conduct VSCs at Jackson Beach with help from a Deputy assigned to Orcas Island. He had a narrated slide show describing the extent of the San Juan Islands, a history of the Sheriff's Patrol and rescue boats and their duties. He showed how law enforcement on the water has been made law and put under the jurisdiction of the Parks Department. After the presentation he related some of his experiences in law enforcement on the water and a rescue in extremely adverse weather conditions.

The meeting ended about 2015.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Ferro, Secretary