

FRIDAY HARBOR POWER SQUADRON
December 2008 General Meeting

MINUTES
Thursday, December 4, 2008

Our Holiday Buffet meeting at San Juan Island Yacht Club began at 1800 with socializing followed by dinner.

Commander Fred Bowen called the business meeting to order at 1900. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Dave Cable after his announcement that it is now proper for veterans to use the hand salute.

The invocation was given by Sammy Long. His theme was the observation of Advent. He had the text of "A Prayer for Advent" professionally printed and available on tables to follow along as he quoted it.

Guests were introduced, including: Laura & Chuck Rose from West Marine, Elizabeth Forlenza, mother of P/C Marc Forlenza, her friend Rudy, and brother Peter. Commander Bowen also thanked those responsible for decorations for the event: Carolyn Bowen, Sharon Towson, and Lizz Divers-Smith, who were presented with Commander's Coins. The food committee was Mike Griffin, Travis Smith, Marc Forlenza, Ann Einboden (absent but provided salmon), Dave Cable and Don Granger. The ladies of the Bridge were thanked for desserts.

The Minutes of the General Meeting for November 6, 2008, were approved as submitted.

Squadron Officer's Reports:

- XO Carolyn Bowen thanked the members for their attendance, commenting on the large number at 64.
- SEO Travis Smith, also District Treasurer and Secretary Elect, announced that the Piloting Course was in its third week with 7 students. Advanced Piloting should begin in late February. In April or May the Sail Course will be offered with an instructor certified by the U.S. Sailing Association. Travis is also looking at the USPS Seminar on Radar.
- AO Mike Griffin reported that Capt. Richard Rodriguez of Vessel Assist is scheduled to speak at the January 8th meeting. On the subject of our programs, Cdr. Bowen presented Mac & Pattie Douglas with Commander's Coins for their presentation on their first trip to Alaska and how they related what they had learned in USPS courses, particularly Cruise Planning, to the success of their trip.
- Treasurer Dan Watson reported that we have \$3,755 in checking and \$2,536.46 in the Business account. Cdr. Bowen added that we need suggestions of how these funds can be used to advance boating education and safety in the community.
- Secretary Jan Ferro mentioned that if you have problems with Vista and Office 2007 to contact her for help.

Committee Reports:

- Membership Committee – John Towson reported that we have two new members who joined through the Piloting Class. He also presented Tom and Norma Barrett with their membership badges. Cdr. Bowen again mentioned that FHPS placed 8th in the nation for Membership Growth, out of 445 squadrons, largely due to John's efforts.
- Membership Involvement – Dave Cable noted the fact that members who are involved with squadron activities remain with the squadron. He discussed a request from the International Power Boat Association which will conduct an International Cruiser Race (predicted log contest) in our area July 18, 2009. IBPA has requested our help in providing observers for the event. He passed around a sign-up sheet, and we have 22 volunteers. Burke Critchfield and Fred Hoepfner will most likely be available to teach the observers how to perform their functions.
- VSC Chairman – Burke Critchfield announced that Andrea Douglas has completed her 5 vessel exams for the year. With another 3 exams, we will meet our goal of 130 for the year.
- Safety Officer – Ed Ferro had no report

Old Business

- Nominating Committee Report – P/C Marc Forlenza remarked that we still have the XO position open. It is most important we find a qualified and willing individual to take this responsibility.

The following elected officers are slated for next year.

Commander	Carolyn Bowen
Executive Officer	Open
Educational Officer	Travis Smith
Administrative Officer	Mike Griffin
Secretary	Penny Woodall
Treasurer	Dan Watson
Rules Committee	Ron Einboden
Auditing Committee	Lizz Divers-Smith
Nominating Committee	Toni Bailey
	Sharon Towson
	Fred Bowen
Assistant Educational Officer	Ron Crenshaw
Assistant Secretary	Jan Ferro
Assistant Treasurer	Joyce Ragsdale
Executive Committee	Marc Forlenza
	Ron Crenshaw
	Burke Critchfield
	Ed Ferro
	John Towson
	Fred Bowen

After recording that there were no nominations from the floor, it was moved by P/C Forlenza that this slate of officers be elected, with seconds by Dan Watson and Burke

Critchfield. The motion passed unanimously. The officers and elected committee members will be installed at the Change of Watch on April 2, 2009.

- Ed & Jan Ferro were again thanked for the re-painting and repair of Kids PFD Display at the Port of Friday Harbor. The display at Roche Harbor is receiving very appreciative comments.

New Business:

- Use of FHPS Funds for Educational Activities for 2009
A suggestion has been made to support the Marine Parks in this area.
We are in need of more ideas for promoting Boating Safety and Education in the community.
- Merit Marks have been submitted for 19 Members:
Toni Bailey, Carolyn Bowen, Dave Cable, Mike Close, Ron Crenshaw, Burke Critchfield, Lizz Smith, Ann Einboden, Ed Ferro, Jan Ferro, Marc Forlenza, Dave Good, Mike Griffin, Fred Hoepfner, Denece Kost, Susan Ley, Travis Smith, John Towson, Dan Watson. Fred Bowen has been submitted by the D16 Commander, Mark Richey.
- FHPS Website, under Webmaster David Good, has been awarded an Excellent rating for 2008. We received a score of 98, with "Excellent" being any score over 80. Friday Harbor is listed first in District 16.

The business meeting was adjourned at 1940 to proceed with the live auction.

Cdr. Bowen served as Auctioneer with a very capable Carol Good, posing as Vanna White. In total, 43 items with auctioned off with proceeds totaling \$2,150. This will aid the squadron in performing our boating safety and education activities for our community.

Other Items: Next General Meeting, Thursday, January 8, 2009

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Ferro, Secretary