

**Friday Harbor Power Squadron
Change of Watch and General Meeting
April 2, 2009
San Juan Island Yacht Club**

The Friday Harbor Power Squadron members were greeted by Mike Close and Ed Ferro beginning at 1730. Caroline and Kathryn Close escorted members to their seats. We had 64 members present and 5 guests. The meeting was called to order at 1815 by Commander Fred Bowen. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Charter Member and P/C Fred Hoepfner, who is also a Pearl Harbor Survivor. Sammy Long gave the Invocation.

Cdr. Bowen introduced the head table: D/C Barbara Erickson, and D/Lt Steve Erickson, XO Carolyn Bowen, D/XO Joanna Webster, D/AO Hank Willis, D/Secretary Travis Smith, and Lizz Divers-Smith.

P/D/C Kari Black was introduced as an additional guest from District.

FHPS Squadron Past Commanders present were Fred Hoepfner, Travis Smith, and Marc Forlenza. Other Squadron Past Commanders were Barbara Erickson, Joanna Webster, Kari Black, and Hank Willis.

At 1820 there was a break for dinner.

Presentation of 2009 Awards

- Educational Fund Certificate of Merit – This recognition has been awarded to FHPS for the past 25 years and was accepted by SEO Travis Smith. The fund is made up of \$1 from each member's dues per year.
- Distinction in Journalism – Awarded to Lizz Divers-Smith who has been editor and publisher of Harbor Lights for the past 5 years.
- Nat'l Website Award for Excellence – Awarded to David Good, who completely redesigned the website which is getting 225 hits per week. It may have received the highest score in the nation.
- Past District Commanders Membership Award – Accepted by Cdr. Fred Bowen with a Trophy Certificate to show that the Friday Harbor Power Squadron placed second in the district and eighth in the nation with a 28% growth.
- Commanders Challenge Award--Presented to Cdr. Fred Bowen, as one of eleven squadrons in the District meeting the Challenge.
- Power of One--Awards were presented to members who had influenced new people to join the Power Squadron. These went to Don Ragsdale, 1, Jan Ferro, 2, and John Towson, Membership Chairman, 20.

Change of Watch

- At this point Cdr. Fred Bowen thanked those who had served on the Bridge and Executive Committee and then dismissed the 2008-2009 Bridge.
- D/C Barbara Erickson then swore in XO Carolyn Bowen as the 2009-2010 Squadron Commander.
- D/XO Joanna Webster installed the rest of the 2009-2010 Bridge: XO Marc Forlenza, SEO Travis Smith, AO Mike Griffin, Treasurer Dan Watson, and Secretary Penny Woodall.
- Squadron Recognition—P/C Fred Bowen presented the Expanded Horizons Award to SEO Travis Smith and D16 Secretary.
- Senior Member Awards were presented to Cdr. Carolyn Bowen, Lizz Divers-Smith, Sammy Long, and Mike Close for having earned 5 merit marks.
- Education Proficiency Awards were presented by SEO Travis Smith to P/C Fred Bowen, Sammy Long, and P/C Ron Crenshaw who was absent.
- A special Squadron award was presented by Cdr. Carolyn Bowen to Lizz Divers-Smith for Excellence in Publishing. As retiring editor-publisher of Harbor Lights, the award consisted of framed copies of the first page of her first and last issue, September 2004 and March 2009.
- The Squadron's 08-09 Outstanding Member(s)-- John Towson presented outstanding member plaques for this year's recipients: David Good, for work as Webmaster, and to Ed and Jan Ferro for a wide range of important Squadron functions such as assisting in classes, meeting setup, vessel examinations, and Kids Don't Float boards.
- Flags and plaques were exchanged by P/C Fred Bowen and Cdr. Carolyn Bowen.
- P/C Fred Bowen reviewed the Squadron's accomplishments during his term, which included 128 VSCs, growth in membership, the Flare Shoot, Kids PFD Boards, new website, and member retention.

2009 – 2010 Commander's Message

Cdr. Carolyn Bowen thanked P/C Fred for his contributions during the past year. She thanked the CoW decorating committee of Penny Woodall, Joyce Ragsdale and Toni Bailey and those who had brought appetizers and desserts. Also recognized was Jan Ferro for help with the program and place cards.

Goals for 2009 – 2010 are:

Focus on EXCELLENCE in what we have done in the past:

- a. Boater and Member Education—Maintain at least current level of course offerings, expand seminar offerings, seek additional instructors
- b. Vessel Safety Checks—With seven VE's, perform 150 Vessel Safety Checks
- c. Squadron Newsletter (Harbor Lights)—New editor, new format, publish six issues, every issue posted on the website
- d. Squadron Website—Continue to promote usage by members

Increase visibility of USPS in the community:

- a. Boating Safety Week, May 16-22, with public “Flare Shoot”, May 17th
- b. Maintain “Kids Don’t Float” displays at Port of Friday Harbor and Roche Harbor
- c. Continue strategic relationship with San Juan Island Yacht Club through joint events
- d. Become involved in at least one new community boating safety program
- e. Increase publicity in local papers
- f. Promote youth involvement in America’s Boating Course through local school contacts

Strengthen member recruitment and retention through:

- a. “New Member” mentorship program
- b. Encourage member participation in District meetings and rendezvous
- c. Publicize member benefits in Harbor Lights and on website
- d. Offer additional support to Membership Chair and Member Involvement Chair
- e. Provide on water boating activities for ALL Squadron members with “Pocket Cruises”
- f. Continue annual Squadron award for member who provides most significant support to USPS activities at District, National, or International levels
- g. Strive to make the five monthly meeting programs interesting, educational, and fun

Develop Squadron Leadership:

- a. Identify future Squadron leaders and promote involvement opportunities
- b. Present USPS Operations Training Course (last presented January 2007)

Score in top 50% of Commander’s Challenge Program:

Old Business:

Bill Wertz and Steve Percer discussed Opening Day activities which begin on Saturday evening, May 2nd, with a docktail party at the Port, then the Sunday, May 3rd brunch, which will be served at the Yacht Club for \$10 per person from 1030 to 1230. The blessing of the fleet and boat parade begins at 1400 with the theme of “come as you are” recognizing that it is part of the Town of Friday Harbor’s 100th Anniversary.

Steve Percer noted that the marina at the Cape has requested a “Kids Don’t Float” PFD board.

Dave Cable announced that we have 50 people signed up for the Pocket Cruise to the Seattle Yacht Club’s outstation on Henry Island on May 9th. A clip and mail will go out next week. There are 5 large boats lined up for transportation leaving from Roche Harbor about 1130 to the SYC dock. These boats will fly a SYC burgee and have a SYC member aboard. People are to bring their own beverage, food, and dinnerware.

John Towson called Krissy Haugen to be inducted by Cdr. Carolyn Bowen.

Door prizes were drawn by Kathryn and Caroline Close. Lucky recipients were Dan Watson, a FHPS cap, and Phyllis Davis, a Cap’n Ed pennant. Three floral arrangements, each with a Cap’n Ed pennant, were sold off the head table.

With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2030.

Respectfully submitted,
Lt. Cdr. Jan Ferro, P
Secretary