

## **FRIDAY HARBOR POWER SQUADRON**

### **February General Meeting Thursday, February 5, 2012**

**Cdr Fred Bowen** called the February Monthly meeting to order at 1830 at the Friday Harbor Grange. Twenty -five members were in attendance.

Bill Wertz, SJIYC Commodore, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

P/Lt/C Sammy Long led the invocation.

The minutes of the January Meeting held on January 5, 2012 were approved as posted.

Introduction of Guests – Al and Kristi Thomason from D32 Beaverton, Oregon, were welcomed back. Kurt and Peggy Long, guests of AO Bruce Galton, were introduced.

Members were asked to check out the Ship's Store on their way to dinner. At 1835 there was a dinner recess. The business meeting resumed at 1904.

#### **Squadron Officer's Reports:**

**SEO Travis Smith** recognized four FHPS members who received JN status- Cdr Fred Bowen, David Good, Mike Clark and Peg Gerlock. Phil Coose will receive his JN Grade when he completes Advanced Piloting. USPS requires a member to complete Seamanship, Piloting, and Advanced Piloting prior to awarding JN. Cdr Fred Bowen recognized Travis for his role as the JN course instructor. Sammy Long commented on the high achievement of the JN status.

Travis reviewed the current courses and seminars and encouraged all members to sign up. FHPS currently has only 15% of the membership participating in courses and seminars. Education to be better boaters is a key part of the purpose of the FHPS. Sign-up for courses and seminars is easily accessible using FHPS website. FHPS courses and seminars provide a wonderful opportunity to share and learn better boating from one another.

Travis distributed a list of software downloads available for FHPS members. Over a dozen Microsoft DVD's are available on the Tech Soup list. Contact Travis to make arrangements. This service provides members significant savings – for example Windows 7 is available for only \$6.00.

**AO Bruce Galton** announced that the March meeting will highlight the Predicted Log. The Predicted Log event this year is dedicated to P/C Fred Hoepfner. The intent of the March program is to take the angst out of the event and to promote the fun of navigating around Shaw Island. As one member put it – “It's just what you predict you can do in your boat!” The Predicted Log will have three prizes this year – 1<sup>st</sup> place of \$200; runner up \$100; and novice winner \$50. The event held in conjunction with the SJIYC concludes with a steak dinner. Come to the FHPS March meeting and find out more about how you can be part of the fun this year.

The April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting is the annual Change of Watch at the SJIYC.

Bruce gave special kudos to Jan Ferro for her artistry in our monthly meeting flyers.

Bruce encouraged members to attend the D16 Spring Council on Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>. It will be hosted by Skagit Bay Sail & Power Squadron and will be held at the Farmhouse Restaurant on Rte. 20. The \$20 registration fee includes breakfast and lunch.

**Treasurer Dan Watson** reported that the checking account balance is \$8,604.97. Last year at this time the account was \$5,773.28. Dan reminded us that FHPS, as D16 Spring Conference host squadron, has additional obligations this year. The Derelict Vessel savings account has a balance of \$6,014.647. The savings certificate balance is \$2,679.13.

**Secretary Carolyn Haugen** had no report.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Membership Committee—John Towson** encouraged all members to be sure to renew when they receive their renewal notice from USPS.

**VSC/Safety - Burke Critchfield** acknowledged the work of the VSC Team. The team completed 545 vessel inspections this year - the goal was 175. FHPS ranks fourth nationally out of the 450 national power squadrons. Now that we are moving into spring, Burke reminded each member to arrange for a 2012 VSC. A yearly VSC should be a commitment for every FHPS member. **Cdr Fred Bowen** honored Virgil Boyt for his 1000 VSC accomplishment by presenting Virgil with a Commander's Coin. Virgil will receive other recognition at the D16 Spring Conference.

**Public Boating Chair – Ann Einboden** shared that the next ABC class starts Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup>. Ann invited FHPS members to support the class participants by attending the class graduation on March 19<sup>th</sup>. The ABC class offers a six -month trial power squadron membership to all class participants.

Ann encouraged members to take advantage of the Tech Soup software download opportunity.

### **Old Business:**

- **Derelict Vessel Program Status** –in the absence of **P/C Marc Forlenza**. **Cdr Fred Bowen** presented a program update. Several vessels have been removed. SJ County has asked FHPS members to volunteer to provide GPS info on offending vessels. This info will help SJ County DVP coordinator, Joanruth Baumann, in vessel removal. A volunteer sheet was distributed.

### **New Business:**

- **D16 Spring Conference, March 30-31** – **P/C Travis Smith** gave updates on the conference to be held at the Ocean Shores Shilo Inn. Travis circulated conference brochures and encouraged members to attend. So far five FHPS couples will attend. Cdr Fred Bowen reminded all that FHPS is the host squadron for this event as P/C Travis Smith will be inducted as District 16 Commander. A block of 50 rooms at \$99/room has been reserved. The registration form is on-line. FHPS member attendance will serve as special support for Travis and Lizz. P/C Carolyn Bowen asked for FHPS member

support in donating SJI products to be used in a raffle basket. Call Carolyn to pick up your item or just bring it to the March meeting.

Travis gave a brief report of his attendance at the recent USPS annual meeting in Jacksonville, Florida. Look for a full report in the next *Harbor Lights*. In 2014, USPS will celebrate its centennial. Travis told us that in June 2012, dues will increase by \$2.00.

- **FHPS Change of Watch, April 5, 2012** - P/C Carolyn Bowen announced that the position of secretary is still open. All other Bridge positions have been filled. Please contact Carolyn if you would be willing to help out in the secretary position. Details for the Change of Watch are being finalized and the event flyer will be distributed within the next few weeks.
- **Website Course Sign-up – Dave Good** reviewed the course/seminar sign-up process that is now available. Members are encouraged to make this service known to all boaters since it is tough on our instructors when only a few people register. The key to successful registration is a correct answer to the math question listed at the bottom of the registration form. The instructor will contact registered participants prior to the course or seminar. In recognition for the time and effort that Dave put in to establishing the on-line registration process Cdr Fred Bowen presented him with a Commander's Coin.
- **Snug Harbor “Kids Don't Float” Program** – Cdr Fred Bowen thanked Ed and Jan Ferro for their work in setting up this program at both the Port of Friday Harbor and Roche Harbor and now their willingness to set up the program at Snug Harbor.

Cdr Fred Bowen concluded the business meeting at 1940. AO Bruce Galton introduced FHPS member Terry Lush who presented his summer 2011 five -week boating adventure to the Broughton Islands. Terry's photographs and personal anecdotes made his presentation informative and fun. Cdr Fred Bowen awarded Terry a Commander's Coin for his stepping forward to be a program presenter.

### **Other Business:**

- **Next Monthly Meeting - Thursday, March 2, 2012, at the Grange.**

The meeting concluded at 2035.

Carolyn Haugen, S  
FHPS Secretary