

DECEPTION PASS SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON

Table of Contents

New ABC App	1
Commander	2-4
Admin Officer	4
Executive Officer	5
Boat Safety	6-7
SERAT	7
Message from Jen	8
Lessons Learned –part 4	9-10
ABC Class	11
Boat Handling Class	12
Cruising/Cruise Planning	13
Partners In Command	14
Calendar	15
Wooden Boat Winter Series	16
Bridge Officers	17
Recruiting Bridge Officers	18

HAVE YOU SEEN THAT ABC LAUNCHED THEIR NEW BOATING APP?

Everything you need for a great day on the water, right at your fingertips! Download the FREE America's Boating Club mobile app and you'll have easy access to nautical reference

information, maintenance records, float plans, weather, radar, tides and currents, and so much more. You can download it on your phone or tablet from the Apple Store or Google Play.

Best of all, it's free!

Here is the direct link on ABC website

I haven't had a chance to really spend time with it, but one cool feature is the ability to determine and send your location.

Jen Geller



District 16 United States Sail and Power Squadron Your single information source for
a great day on the water

Nautical reference information
Maintenance records, Float plans
Weather, Radar, Tides and Currents
and much, much more

FROM YOUR SQUADRON COMMANDER, PAT WATERS, JN

THE STATE OF THE SQUADRON, DECEMBER

Hi folks,

Steve Pye, our new Education Officer, and technical guru for our online meetings has scheduled our first online courses, the American Boating Course (ABC) in January and Boat Handling in February and March! See his article within this Spindrift and the



attached flyer. What is more, as they are online, we can offer these to other squadrons, yacht clubs, etc. This opens a whole new world for us as we have the possibility of getting new students anywhere in the world! So far Steve has two students from Hawaii signed up for the ABC class. Steve has also scheduled a free Zoom "Suddenly in Command" seminar in February. In addition, you will find a enclosed flyer giving you the opportunity to take an online Cruise Planning Course taught by a squadron in Beaverton Oregon. Isn't technology amazing!



Speaking of courses, try this scenario. You see a flyer for the course then scan with your smart phone, the embedded QR code. That takes you to our squadron website. On the website is the signup form for the course to fill out and digitally submit. You then pay for the course on our website using either a credit card or PayPal! It is going to happen! We are working on it!

In other great news, **Bob McCrary**, our new Administration Officer, has hit the ground running in this position and has already scheduled several exciting speakers for our monthly online speaker meetings. His second Speaker meeting was held the evening of Wednesday, December 9 and was a stunning success. A large audience, many from other squadrons, were entertained by **Mark Bunzel**, **from Wagoneer** In January, Bob has arranged for **Tracy Loescher**, a columnist for Whidbey Weekly to speak on Winter Trout Fishing! Put this on your calendar, you will not want to miss it! See the enclosed flyer for the event.

Jennifer and Hiller are our nomination committee members for next year. When they give you a call and ask you to serve is some capacity, please volunteer. I think you will find this a rewarding experience! Remember, this is a volunteer organization. If you do not volunteer, we will cease to exist.

We have also formed a Budget Committee as required by our Bylaws to develop a budget for the upcoming year and present it first to ExCom and then to our members for approval. Committee members are **Shawn**, **Steve**, **Bob**, and **Mike**.



We still need a volunteer for squadron **Secretary this year**. A great position for someone who wants to learn more about how our squadron operates. You need to attend only one online meeting a month, take notes and send them out to the board members. In addition, the Secretary has a vote on squadron issues and the title of Lieutenant Commander. **Please let me know you are willing to fill this position!**

WE now are up to 72 members! We have recruited 10 new members so far this year. Every member is vital to our continuing success. Remember, with your membership we are saving lives out on the water by providing boating education. Continue on next page

A critical need right now with the number of new boat owners our on the water this year. Please remember to renew your membership when it becomes due. See me if you have any questions regarding amount or procedure.

We now have 8 trained mentors in our squadron. We need more of you to volunteer to be mentors! It is easy, fun, and rewarding! I will teach another online **Mentor Training Workshop** again early next year. Please send me an email if you are interested.

The other event now scheduled for the evening of January 20 is to give the **South Whidbey Yacht Club**, located in Langley, an online presentation all about our squadron, who we are and what we offer. By reaching out to fellow organizations we hope to gain students and perhaps new members as well. It is important to offer them all the training in boating safety we can.

We now need to train some **new instructors** for our classes, as well as recertify our existing instructors. Please let **Steve Pye** know if you would like to volunteer to be an instructor in our courses and seminars. It is easy to do, extremely fun, rewarding and up to you what you want to teach. We have all the tools you need to make it a success. We especially need help in our online ABC class scheduled in January.

Steve's ongoing saga of how he found the boat of his dreams in Asia continues. He is now on his way to Anacortes in this final chapter. **Jerry**, our Safety Officer, has given us another great article, this on How to Call for Assistance when needed!

Six of our members signed up to take the **Ham radio class** in January. The Amateur Radio Club of Whidbey Island offers this class that enables you to receive a technician license required for Ham radio operation. You do not need to know Morse Code! Classes are scheduled every few months. Let me know if you are interested and I will get you in contact with them.

Our desired **Bylaw changes** were recently approved by National They also asked for several additional minor changes which were just approved by your ExCom officers. The next step is to send all the changes out to you for approval at the March business meeting. I am working on a means by which we can meet online instead but still meet our bylaw requirements of voting in person. Stay tuned.

Your ExCom voting members have also passed a motion to give your large tent, used once a year at our annual Jamboree to Whidbey Presbyterian Church (WPC). In exchange, they will allow us to use it cost free for the Jamboree or any other potential event. Why? The tent and poles take up considerable room in our storage shed. Without it we can now explore a smaller shed which would save considerable funds in the future.

As you know we have started vaccinations on Whidbey Island. These will continue for some time. We need more volunteers to serve in various roles at the vaccination sites. I am the DEM volunteer coordinator for Island County. Please contact me if you are interested. In a rural community, volunteers are the only way of conducting a major task like this.



continue on next page

As I write this, the number of people in our county testing positive is growing significantly. Getting through this pandemic and recovering is very dependent on people helping people, especially on our island. We all need empathy, courage, persistence, and resilience. **Please call your fellow members frequently and stay in touch with them.** Quarantine can become a lonely exercise without others in your life.

Stay warm, stay well, stay safe

Pat

ADMINISTRATION OFFICER BOB MCCRARY, S

Deception Pass Sail & PowerSquadron

presents our January Membership Meeting

Winter Rainbow Trout Fishing

Tracy Loescher, columnist, Island Angler,

Thursday, January 14, 2021

6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Zoom format

An angling enthusiast, Tracy enjoys helping others catch fish, sharing his ideas and lessons learned. A columnist for Whidbey Weekly's "The Island Angler" column, he aims to make fishing easier and more successful for both beginner and experienced Island anglers.

Zoom link and instructions to join in will be emailed to members and guests prior to the start of the meeting. Brief business meeting will start the evening off.

Questions?

Please contact Bob McCrary at rmccrary09@gmail.com or (916) 206-1114



FROM THE DESK OF OUR EXECUTIVE OFFICER SHAWN HAUGEN



Hello all! I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas season. We actually had a Christmas Star! I hope some of you got to see it. I even had carolers at my boat this year. They went around to all the live aboards and

dropped off cookies and sang. That really helped me get into the Christmas spirit!

Now that the winter solstice is behind us, we can look forward to having days become a little longer and nights a little shorter moving forward. It's a good time of year to pour over cruising guides and do a little route planning for our upcoming boating season. If you're like me, you didn't leave anything in 2020 you need to go back and get. In fact, I can't close the door on that year fast enough! I've been on kind of a mini lucky streak over the Christmas break. First my Nordic lodge held a zoom meeting to celebrate their yule fest. I was at a friend's house and was able to join in using their Internet. They put all the names of the people who



attended in a bowl and drew a winner. I won a large bag of treats from all over Scandinavia! (Maybe that's something we could do at our meetings on occasion.) Then at my family 's Christmas dinner I got the dessert with the nut hidden in it. (Don't ask me why) but according to lore, I'll have good luck and prosperity this upcoming year. Okay, I'll go with that. So, let's focus on 2021 and pray we can get past this ridiculous pandemic. But until then I implore you to do everything you can to stay safe. It would be tragic to have contracted the virus just as the vaccine is being distributed. Look after yourselves and your neighbors. We're all in this together.

Cheers, Shawn

BOATERS SAFETY

Happy Holidays and my wish for safe seas this season. Boating safety has always been about things we can NEVER have to much (many) of. My neighbor John, who by the way celebrated his 100th birthday last Saturday, and is a smarter man than myself, once told me:

- 1. Never go out in the ocean with only 1 motor (or 1 sail I suppose).
- 2. You can never have too much fuel.
- 3. And this one applies to everything... You can never have too many Options.

Today's Safety Article discusses the latter. (OPTIONS) **HOW DO I CALL FOR ASSISTANCE IF NEEDED?**Cell phones are great as long as you are within close proximity of a cell tower. If that is your only communication device, you may have no other options. That would, of course, be a violation of rule # 3. I am going to break this up into two articles. The first being Cell Phone options for mariners and next month will review the latest VHF Radio options.

CELL PHONE VS. VHF RADIO

Having a cell phone on board allows you to keep in touch with land-based contacts and businesses easily. They are very convenient but in some situations they shouldn't be used in place of a very high frequency (VHF) radio, the benefits of which we'll address shortly. Here are some things to consider regarding cell-phones.

- Cell phones are less reliable on the water. Most are not water resistant, and their range is relatively short due to the proximity of land-based towers and repeaters.
- Range is further complicated by the fact that the majority of cell antenna/stations are placed and oriented with land-based use in mind, so the distance offshore that a vessel can remain in contact is frequently shorter.

A cell phone won't allow you to "broadcast" to several boaters at a time which is important in a true emergency.

There is more to the Cell Phone Story though. The Coast Guard has implemented the I911 System. The i911 system is a free that provides fast and accurate location data to the Coast Guard in a simple webbased interface. The user's smartphone can provide Global Positioning System information, potentially up to 20-nautical miles offshore if a mariner has recently or actively connected to a cellular tower.

The US Coast Guard advises "An accurate position eliminates the need to search and decreases the time needed for rescuers to get on scene to provide needed assistance," "I want to emphasize; the Coast Guard is not actively monitoring all individuals by their cell phone and only has access to a person's position if granted permission."

No application download is needed. The Coast Guard can send a text message to the mariner's cell phone requesting permission to access the GPS location information; all the mariner needs to do is enable location information in their smartphone settings and click the link provided in the text message. You can stop sharing your location at any time, although it is recommended to do so only after being safe and not in distress.

This software is already available to first responders at agencies across the country. The Coast Guard ran a pilot program from May to November 2019 in the Northeast, and the new application was instrumental in resolving several search and rescue cases in the New England region. It is now an available tool to Coast Guard command centers across the country as of March 20.

Continue on next page

The Coast Guard's 14th District has followed other districts in implementing this groundbreaking technology to assist mariners in distress on the waters throughout the Pacific. This tool is not a replacement for standard devices known to mariners, such as Electronic Position Indicating Radio Beacons (EPIRBs) and VHF radios. However, the Coast Guard now has the i911 technology as an additional tool to provide lifesaving information from a mariner's cell phone.

For any questions regarding i911, please visit their website at http://i911.zendesk.com/

Happy Safe Boating Jerry Liggett





I really don't have much to report or write about at this time.

With everyone hunkered down due to the coronavirus and winter, there is not much boating activity going on. The DEM is busy with the COVID-19 vaccine distribution process, therefore discussions regarding SERAT training with them are on hold until further notice.

So, all I can say is:

HAVE A HAPPY 2021 !!

The new year has got to be better than 2020. Later, Bill Coltrin

AMAZON SMILE

Your ExCom has passed a motion to set up an **AmazonSmile** account for our squadron. Our members and others can now make donations to our squadron in support of our education program when they make a purchase using AmazonSmile. It is totally free to both our squadron and our members and easy to sign up. When you make a purchase, Amazon donates to our squadron.



MESSAGE FROM JEN GELLER:

Happy New Year!

"May your troubles be less, and your blessings be more. And nothing but happiness come through your door. "

I know that 2020 was less-than-stellar for just about everyone, and our trip to southern California to be with family for the holidays just didn't happen, but – hey! We made the most of December and never let a sunny day go to waste. We tested our boating skills with winter crabbing and decided that the Dungeness crab seem bigger and more plentiful this time of year. Well worth braving the harsher elements. We discovered the Tommy Thompson Trail that starts in Anacortes and ends up at March Point near

the refinery ... no cars and no hills make it great for both walking and bike riding. And despite the lack

of indoor dining, Dockside Dogs at Cap Sante Marina proved to be a delicious, if simple, lunch. And, here on the islands, you'll find Christmas

decorations like no other -

the Anacortes tree made up of crab pots and old trucks festively decorated. I learned that holly grows on trees (have only seen tiny bushes, not an entire tree farm) after a Christmas treeshopping venture to a holly farm.

And, to top it off, our three St. Bernards just love the cold weather! Bottom line, I'm so grateful to be "stuck" here on Whidbey Island where we still can enjoy the beautiful outdoors and open space, minus hordes of people. Here's to remembering all your bright moments of 2020, and that 2021 brings many more!

Jen Geller



LESSONS LEARNED: STEVEN PYE

Enjoying the Philippines, Retirement and Return of the Boat from Manila to Anacortes, Part 4/4

Despite all the difficulties I will describe, please keep mind that in the end everything worked out ok. Very few people encounter any problems. My boat, a 49' Grand Banks got to the Philippines, where I lived on it for 7 years while I was working there and then brought it back to Anacortes when I retired. As you may or may not remember, the last part left off with the boat being re-imported to the free port at Subic Bay, ready for more fun and enjoyment in the Philippines, as well as being my home.

The cruising included family, friends and politicians, most of whom wanted to scuba dive. The friends were a mix of Filipino and European, with an occasional American thrown in. We went to both coral and wreck sites. We went to the local sites, Subic Bay, Anilao (Batangas Bay), Puerto Galera (Mindoro), with occasional trips to Boracay, Puerto Princesa (Palawan), Tubbataha Reefs National Park, and Coron/Busuanga (WWII wrecks). This covered an area from about 600 miles south of Manila to about 70 miles north of Manila. I could no longer scuba dive, but I enjoyed snorkeling in the same areas.

Most of the scuba trips were led by a certified scuba instructor. We went diving on coral reefs and the Tubbataha Reefs Natural park and Apo Reef National Park are spectacular. These are mostly wall and current dives with a lot of larger animals, such as various types of sharks (reef, tiger and hammer head), manta rays and turtles, as well as beautiful coral. One of these trips involved the photographers and staff of a South East Asian dive publication, who then included their trip in one of the following publications. All these trips required that we keep track of the divers and make sure they had the training they needed, had a buddy and followed good diving practice. It was all great diving and everyone had a good time.

The congressman from the Tiwi area, where one of our electric generating facilities was located, asked if I could take him and the mayors in his district for a recreational trip to Boracay and I agreed. It was a fun trip, with most of them talkative and boisterous, probably because most of them had participated in the pre-trip festivities. I unloaded all 16 of them in Boracay after a 12 hour trip and they stayed in a resort on Boracay for the weekend, and then I took them back. You have to understand the Philippines to understand how much power a mayor has in that country.

The scuba trips to the sunken WWII wrecks were more intense for me, because some of the divers were entering the wrecks, which is a significant increase in risk for them, but they really enjoyed seeing the wrecks and the coral and wildlife that has attached to the wrecks. In addition I came back with all the divers. A wreck on Coron was in the middle of an oyster farm. After the divers had gone down, we were approached by 4 men with AK-47's telling us we had to leave. The Filipino's talked them into coming aboard and inspecting the bilge, so they would know that we wouldn't harm the oysters, and all was well after that, but somewhat of a tense moment for a while.

This is the last part of this series, as I retired from Unocal and brought the boat back to Anacortes. Shalita, Vincente, Fely and I departed from Subic Bay for another eventful crossing of the South China Sea. See my wife Shalita's introduction to boating in the last newsletter for her perspective on the crossing, which ended up with a broken window and salt water shorting out our electronics, so I got to practice piloting the boat the old fashion way, with charts...

When we arrived in Kaohsiung, Taiwan, we found that the Philippines had an outbreak of SARS after we left, so we had to quarantine aboard the boat for 2 weeks in a boat yard. There were a lot of Filipino's working in the yard, so we would give them money and they would purchase food for us. An early view into what life would be like with Covid.

When the quarantine was over, we moved to a hotel and a crane lifted the boat to be fit in a cradle for transport, but the crane dropped it, crushing the keel. The boat yard for Ocean Alexander arranged to have the hull repaired and the boat was loaded on the ship for Vancouver, Canada. Shalita and I flew back to the US and Fely and Vicente flew back to the Philippines.

Shalita and I unwrapped the boat on the ship in Vancouver and the ship lowered it into the water with us on board. I had arranged for a slip in Coal Harbor, where we finished fitting out and then cruised to our slip in Skyline. All is well cruising the local area since then.





A TWO-DAY INTRODUCTORY BOATING SKILLS AND CERTIFICATION COURSE

America's Boating Course

Join us virtually on Saturdays, January 16 and 23. This is a two-day, introductory boating class with subject matter including basic boat handling, safety considerations, federal and state equipment and safety requirements and nautical rules of the road. Free on-the-water training available (subject to COVID restrictions). Cost to register is \$40/\$20 for spouse or partner sharing materials.

OR (360)299-2244. REGISTRATION DEADLINE JANUARY 5, 2021

Successful completion of the course, conducted over the two Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., will qualify individuals for the Washington State Boater Education Card now required for most boaters.





Serves the needs of both novice and experienced boaters, teaching basic skills and knowledge required to confidently pilot a boat

Boat Handling Course

Course consists of six two-hour sessions covering:

- · Rules of the road a practical approach
- Confidence in docking and undocking slow speed maneuvering
- · Boating with confidence handling your boat underway
- Anchoring with assurance don't get carried away
- Emergencies on board handling common problems
- Knots and line handling knots you need to know

Cost for members \$60/nonmembers \$110

Presented Virtually

Class starts Feb. 10, every Wednesday 6–8 p.m. for six weeks

Zoom sign-in info will be emailed

Contact Steve Pye at stphnpye@aol.com or (360)540-2244





Back due to popular demand ... Announcing "Cruising & Cruise Planning" Class!

There is something very special about the thrill of cruising in new waters and the sense of accomplishment upon completing an extended cruise. To go beyond what most boaters do on a weekend overnight or even a week or so marina hopping requires boaters to leave their normal cruising areas and comfort zones. The Cruising and Cruise Planning course focuses on the planning and preparation necessary for safe enjoyable extended cruises on both inland and coastal waters.

Designed for boater who cruise on either a sail or powerboat (owned or chartered)—this course covers the following topics:

Cruise preparation and planning - General Boat and Equipment
Anchors and Anchoring
Security
Chartering
Cruising Outside the United States
Crew and Provisioning
Voyage Management
Communications
Navigation
Weather
Emergencies

Instructor: Lt/C Mike Kondrat AP and his wife Chris Kondrat are members of the Beaverton Squadron for over 30 years where Mike is AO for the Squadron and DEO for D32. They have been fishing and cruising for over 45 years in the Northwest. Mike has a variety of experience with numerous motor craft from 16' runabouts, fishing sleds, ski boats to their current 45' motor vessel. They cruise the Columbia and Willamette rivers, up and down the Oregon and Washington coasts and have cruised to SE Alaska.

The course includes practice cruises and concludes with one multiple choice final exam. It will be taught by experienced Live Instructor, as a Virtual Conference Meeting.

The class will start Monday January 25th, 2021, with seven Monday sessions to-

The class will start Monday January 25", 2021, with seven Monday sessions total plus exam. Time is 7 pm to 9 pm. Price \$85 including book and exam.

Any questions and to register can be directed to Alf Dueser, Educational Officer, at Alf.Dueser@alum.rpi.edu or 9148264127 cell. US Power Squadrons Beaverton, Oregon.



A free seminar to assist first mates and other less-experienced crew members to take control of a vessel in the event of disability or an emergency with the skipper.

PARTNERS IN COMMAND



Are you used to being the mate or passenger? What happens in case of emergency? Could you assist the skipper? Get the boat back to dock?

Seminar covers:

Starting the engine
Stopping the engine/dropping the sails
Emergency use of the VHF marine radio
Anchoring
Handling onboard emergencies
Returning the boat to a dock

Presented Virtually Saturday, February 6, 2021 10 a.m. to noon

Zoom sign-in info will be emailed to members. Nonmembers can contact

Steve Pye at

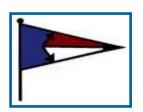
stphnpyesaol.com or (360) 540-2244



Deception Pass Sail & Power Squadron

DECEPTION PASS SAIL & POWER SQUADRON CALENDAR

Jan. 12	Online ExCom meeting
Jan. 14	Online Speaker meeting
Jan. 16/23	Online ABC course
Jan. 20	Online Presentation to South Whidbey Yacht Club
Jan. 25	Cruising-Cruise Planning Online Class US Power Squadrons Beaverton, Oregon
Feb 6	Free Online Seminar, <i>Partners in Command</i> 10-AM—Noon
Feb. 9	Online ExCom meeting
Feb. TBD	Online Speaker meeting
Feb. 3-Mar. 17	Online Boat Handling Course



LET'S STAY CONNECTED WITH OUR BOATING PARTNERS - OAK HARBOR YACHT CLUB

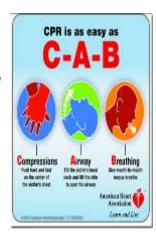
https://www.ohyc.org/ Oak Harbor Yacht Club website

https://www.ohyc.org/newsletter Oak Harbor Yacht Club newsletters

The CPR/AED/First Aid Class Schedule:

<u>as of July 20, 2020:</u> "With all of the Covid-19 restrictions in place, we are not planning on having any public CPR / First Aid classes until further notice Craig

All classes are in our stations training room at the Oak Harbor Fire Department/855 E. Whidbey Ave, Oak Harbor You can register for the course by either emailing Craig Anderson at canderson@oakharbor.org leaving a voice mail at 360-279-4706





When it's cold and COVID outside join us on-line for this unique zoom experience with many of your favorite experts. Enjoy videos, demonstrations and interviews with time to ask your burning questions from the comfort of your home.

2021 SERIES CALENDAR *

JAN 6 LIN PARDEY

Up Close and Personal with Lin

JAN 20 DOUGLAS BROOKS

Building a Boat the Japanese Way

FEB 3 BEHAN AND JAMIE GIFFORD

Pandemic Cruising in Mexicol

FEB 17 CHRIS CHASE & SUSAN SHILLINGLAW

Behind the Scenes of the Western Flyer Project

MAR 3 ANDY STEWART

Designing and Building a Performance Daysailer

MAR 17 ERNIE BAIRD & DIANA TALLEY

Estimation and Precision in Boatbuilding

MAR 31 JOHN WELSFORD

Turning a Dream into Reality

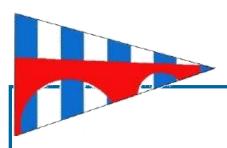
APR 7 DANIELLE DOGGETT

Ceiba: Building a Cargo Ship in the Jungle

*Buy the whole series for extended viewing

Get or give a whole winter of entertainment for the cost of a warm sweater! Series is \$30 or \$5.99 per episode.

January thru April 2021 on woodenboat.org



BRIDGE OFFICERS 2020-2021

Commander <u>Pat Waters, JN</u> - frenchsailor@comcast.net Executive Officer <u>Shawn Haugen</u>, shawnhaugen@me.com

Educational Officer

Assistant Educational Officers

Lt/C Steve Pye, AP

Reg A White, P

Administrative Officer <u>Bob McCrary, S</u> - mccrary09@gmail.com

Secretary VACANT

Treasurer <u>Lt/Cdr Mike McGill, S</u> - MikeMcGill@comcast.net

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Public Relations & Marketing Officer

Safety Officer

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Lt Jennifer Geller—geller.jen@gmail.com

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SERAT Officer Bill Coltrin—bjcoltrin@gmail.com

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Webmaster <u>Sue Waters</u>

Facebook Paula Mihok - tpmihok@gmail.com

If you have an agenda item, please contact the squadron commander Pat Waters, five (5) days prior to the meeting date so that it can be included.

To connect with these members, simply click on their name and you will be directed to writing an email to them.

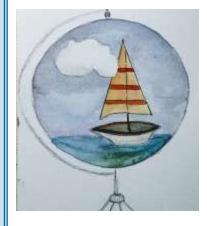
A NOTE FROM YOUR EDITOR

This is your newsletter to distribute information that pertains to your squadron, District 16 squadrons and national headquarters. Reminders are sent out on the <u>20th</u> of each month prior to publishing the next edition, to the Executive Officers. Input by the <u>27th</u> will be appreciated.

Together we can communicate opportunities to further our knowledge with upcoming classes and events that will facilitate time out on the Salish Seas.

Please feel free to send me your photos you would like to share to help illustrate this newsletter. Thank you in advance for your contributions.

Spindrift Editor: Sue Waters: slowwaters@gmail.com



ALL HANDS ON DECK!

The squadron is seeking nominees for 2021 Bridge Officers for the following positions:

Executive Officer
Administration Officer
Secretary
and
Members At Large

Contact Jen Geller at geller.jen@gmail.com or Hiller West at hillerwest@cs.com



