

Everett Sail and Power Squadron *is*
AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB
of Snohomish County



The Pike Pole

For Boaters, By Boaters™

December 2025

Volume LXXIV Issue 4



Merry Christmas

December Highlights

Tuesday 2 - Christmas Gathering, at Shawn O'Donnell's Restaurant, 128th in Everett off I-5, 6:00 PM
White Elephant Gift giving

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Everett Sail and Power Squadron is

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

CALENDAR OF EVENTS for

2025- 2026

COMING UP:

December 2025

- 2 **Christmas Party** at Shawn O'Donnell's Restaurant, (Everett), White Elephant Gift Exchange, Cold Weather Clothing Donation Drive, 6:00 pm, \$38 pp, RSVP and pay on America's Boating Club of Snohomish County website OR pay by check at the November 5th Gratitude Gathering
- 5/6 Christmas House Gift Distribution, sign up at **Christmas House.org** in advance, RSVP Linda Martin
- 6 **Holiday by the Bay**, Port of Everett, Volunteer Opportunity, RSVP Annette Ferguson
- 6 Santa Parade, Mill Creek Towne Center, Volunteer Opportunity, RSVP Linda Martin
- 9 Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom, 6:30 pm
- 25 **Merry Christmas!**

January 2026

- 1 **Happy New Year!**
- 6 Monthly Gathering, via Zoom, 6:30 pm, Stay tuned for Program information.
- 13 Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom, 6:30 pm
- 17 Adopt-a-Street RSVP Danny or Claire (*See column*)
- 30 Thru to February 1 is the Seattle Boat Show at Lumen Field, in Seattle. Boating Safety 4 Kids at Seattle Boat Show Aqua Paddlers area. RSVP Linda M.

February 2026

- 3 Monthly Gathering, Shipwreck Party and Potluck, food bank donations welcome, Everett's Firefighters Hall, 6:30 pm
- 10 Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom, 6:30 pm
- 9-15 USPS National Meeting, Myrtle Beach, SC, rsvp [USPS.org](https://www.usps.org)
- 14 Happy Valentine's Day!

Contacts

Cdr Annette Ferguson
Lt/C Susan Tarpley, AP
Lt/C Brian Rachal, AP
Lt Danny Daniels, AP
Lt Claire Greer
P/C Linda Martin, JN

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Adopt-A-Street Clean up planned January 17, 2026

The next Adopt-A-Street clean up is planned as follows:
Meet at Henry M. Jackson Park for clean up at 9:00 am. The activity is EASY and FUN. It usually takes about 1-1/2 hours to complete.

Please contact [Lt Danny Daniels](#) or [Lt Claire Greer](#) to sign up. It is important to sign up at least 1 week prior to ensure we have enough materials.

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Website:

<http://www.BoatClubSnoCo.org> aka
<http://www.everett>

FRONT COVER: *Creative Commons, Microsoft BING and Adobe Free Stock Images*

It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year!

Join members of America's Boating Club of Snohomish County as we enjoy a delicious meal, festive atmosphere and an entertaining white elephant gift exchange.

Let's help our neighbors in need. We'll collect "care donations" (warm clothing and personal items) for the Homeless Hygiene Center at the event.



White Christmas Menu
Homemade Irish Soda Bread
Apple & Pecan Salad
Cider Glazed Pork Loin
Irish Whiskey Cream Chicken
Cranberry Rice
Basil Pesto Mashed Potatoes
Candied Brussel Sprouts
Christmas Themed Desserts
No-host Beverages



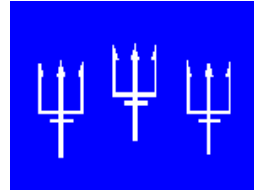
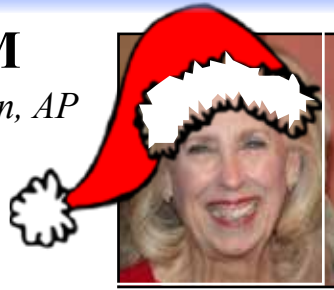
Tuesday December 2, 6:00 pm, Everett Location

Cost is \$38.00 per person. RSVP by November 26.

**Secure your reservation by credit card by using PayPal at boatclubsnoco.org under "Members Only" menu
OR sign up and pay by check at the November 5 Monthly Gathering.**

FROM THE HELM

Commander Annette Ferguson, AP



IS IT REALLY THE HOLIDAY SEASON?

Where did the time go? I just put the Christmas tree away !

As this edition of *The Pike Pole* arrives in your email, we are quickly approaching the holiday season and a new year. We are going to have a festive Holiday dinner at Shawn O'Donnell's. The food will be yummy, laughter will be abundant, and time with each other special. I hope each of you will attend our last gathering of the year.

What will 2026 bring? Your leadership team has been planning programs and activities for 2026. Although the planning has begun, please give any ideas or topics that interest you to any member of the bridge or executive committee. This edition of *The Pike Pole* calendar lists events and activities planned for this month and into 2026. There are many opportunities to volunteer as we continue to provide educational offerings and community outreach. Involvement is critical for the health of our squadron. It is my hope and wish for more of our members to engage and volunteer.

As we move toward saying goodbye to 2025 ,let us reflect on how we lived our yesterdays and make our tomorrows be the best ever.

Wishing each of you a holiday season filled with peace and laughter.

Annette



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Lt/C Nick Rich, AP



Happy Holidays to you fellow mariners!

Here are some updates for outreach/outings coming up soon this winter, and heading into next spring:

Adopt-a-Street: Our Winter clean-up for the Marine View Drive in Everett will Saturday, January 17th with the group meeting at Henry M. Jackson Park at 9:00 AM. This is a fun and a rewarding way to chat with your fellow members while exercising, and to give back to our community. If you are interested in participating for some fun and exercise and good company, don't forget to dress for the conditions, and please contact RSVP Danny or Claire.

Holiday by the Bay: Saturday, December 6, at the Pacific Rim Plaza near Hotel Indigo in Everett. If you are interested in participating, please RSVP Annette Ferguson.

Seattle Boat Show: Come join us at the Boat Show on Friday through Sunday, January 30, 31, and February 1, 2026 when our Club along with other club volunteers in our District will be helping to promote safety for kids in the Aqua Paddlers boat pool. Look for us on the Main Level-East in the Kid Zone, Youth Boating Center. RSVP Linda Martin for free pass and parking.

Holiday Season ideas for safe boating gifts: With the holiday season rapidly approaching, this is a good time to start planning for those boaters in your life to find a meaningful gift, which can feel like navigating uncharted waters.

For something out of the mainstream, I recommend choosing a gift that reflects both your care and their love for the water. Boating safety gear makes for thoughtful, practical presents that every boater can appreciate—after all, safety is the ultimate gift. From budget-friendly essentials to advanced safety equipment, here are some great holiday gift ideas to help keep your favorite boater safe and ready for adventure.

Gift-exchange ideas, \$20 range, for that fun family and boaters' gathering: Floating Keychain: An inexpensive yet practical tool to keep keys from sinking if dropped overboard.

Waterproof Phone Case: This protects a phone from water damage, essential for emergency communications and navigation apps.

Safety Whistle with Lanyard: This is a simple yet effective tool for attracting attention in low-visibility or emergency situations.

Economical gift ideas, \$40 to \$80 Range: (Shameless plug...) A gift of an advanced grade America's Boating Club education course, for safety and comradery on the water and in the class.

Marine First Aid Kit: Give the gift of a kit with essentials like waterproof packaging and marine-specific medical supplies.

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ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT

Lt/C Susan Tarpley, AP



Happy Holidays to All!



Are you ready to light your lights and jingle your bells? May your days be merry and your heart be light this holiday season! I am looking forward to celebrating this special time of year with you on **December**

2nd. It's our club's annual **Holiday Gathering at Shawn O'Donnells in Everett** (see promo on page 3). Don't' forget to RSVP to Darcy and pay via PayPal on our website if you are planning to attend.

In addition to the fun and festivities at this upcoming party, we are asking you to again be a part of our club's on-going civic service efforts. ***Please bring cold weather donations for a local hygiene center that serves people in need, especially those experiencing homelessness and/or housing insecurities.*** This is a place where folks can stop by to get warm showers, clean clothing, food, and assistance. See page 15 for details on what to donate. Let's remember those who are less fortunate than ourselves, and how our club's efforts can make a difference for many others in our communities. Thank you, in advance, for your generosity and may this holiday spirit of giving be with us year-round.

The hustle and bustle of the season is definitely upon us. Amongst all the frenzied things on our to-do lists, and the treasured holiday moments that we'll share with families and friends, it is also a time to reflect on the past year and make plans for the upcoming year. Stay tuned for announcements at the Holiday Party about the January speaker, a wine tasting rendezvous, cruising in the summer to beautiful Princess Louisa Inlet and more! I send you all the warmest wishes this festive season. May your holidays be filled with sparkly snowflakes, warm cozy nights, special times with special people in our lives, and lots of holiday cheer!

Warm Wishes to all, Susan



Cold Weather is Here!



Our Club is gathering donations for a Hygiene Center in Lynnwood, a place where folks in need can stop by to get basic necessities and refresh themselves.

**BRING YOUR
DONATIONS on DEC
2nd to our holiday
gathering!**

The center really needs:

- **Cold-weather Clothing** such as gloves, hats, scarves, warm coats, sweatshirts
- **Blankets** new or used
- **Towels and toiletries** for men and women
- New **underwear and socks**
- Gently used or new **shoes** for walking and being outdoors in the PNW
- **Nutritious, shelf-stable food** that can be carried in a backpack and doesn't require cooking/heating, e.g., protein drinks, peanut butter, granola bars, dried fruit

Monetary Donations

Think about what you might need or want if you were homeless, and let's make a difference in someone's life.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

Lt/C Brian Rachal, AP



Fellow Captains...or at least wannabes,

For those that have been reading my articles, this year has been a series of blunders with an opportunity to learn from Captain Brian's mistakes. I think by the end of this year, we can say that Captain Brian is mostly a term to identify someone that you don't want in charge of your boat. My dad once wrote a story about his "week from hell", and the last weekend outing of this season for "Most Precious" was nearly that. While I'm proud of myself, and my first mate, for the way we handled that situation, it wasn't without its moments to learn from.

The outing started with a wonderful Labor Day weekend at Sucia Island. We cruised up from Everett on Saturday afternoon, and spent all day anchored on Sunday while enjoying hikes on the island, plus there was a beautiful lightning storm on Sunday night that thankfully didn't get closer than a mile. On Monday, getting ready to go, I noticed that the water pump on my starboard engine was dripping. That's very annoying because it was dripping from the shaft, which I can't fix and likely means it's going to have to be replaced. Not much I can do about that from the island, so we headed back. We had been cruising for about 30 minutes, when there was a pop from the engine room, and the system powered down the engine. Yep, the water pump had failed. I shut down the engine and checked to make sure water wasn't pouring into the engine compartment. The water pump now had a steady, but small stream of water coming from it, but it wasn't enough to be a problem as long as the bilge pumps were functioning. We decided that we would pull into Cap Sante for repairs, rather than try to spend the next 8 hours limping back to Everett on one engine. As it was, it took us 2-3 hours to *crawl* to Cap Sante from Sucia.

I made some phone calls to see what help I could get, and didn't have much luck given it was a Holiday. We did get lucky, in several ways though. Since I had an active leak, it was important to get into a slip with power so my bilge pumps wouldn't drain the batteries and let my boat sink. We needed someone to work on the boat, because I didn't

want to do water pump work on my boat in the water. Furthermore, we also needed a way to get home since we departed Everett and it was clear the problem wouldn't be fixed that day, and I had to go to work the following day.

Cap Sante was very accommodating, and gave us a slip that was open at least until Wednesday. I was able to get hold of a mobile mechanic that had his business card in the office. Finally, a friend of mine that lives in Anacortes was nice enough to come give us a ride back to Everett. So far, the stars were aligned. Brian's luck still holding...somewhat at least.

The mechanic got the old pump off, and ordered a new pump. Of course, the new pump wasn't available for several days, and it was going to cost more than half a BOAT unit...ouch. It's a crap shoot with those, I've seen them as low as about \$250, and as high as about \$700. Now, I only order Mercruiser parts, but even those aren't guaranteed to survive much past the warranty.

On Wednesday, I left work early and went back to Anacortes hoping the boat would be fixed and I could make the run back to Everett. Of course, the pump wasn't in yet, but I still had to move the boat because I was losing my slip. I got a new slip assignment and decided to get gas while moving the boat. This is where I should point out that I have twin engines, and the power steering is on the dead one...Ugh. I got onto the fuel dock just fine, so well actually that I thought I was invincible. I decided to try and dock myself at the new slip, without asking for dock hands to support. Obviously, my head got too big, because that was dumb, and I proved it. I actually got to slip pretty well, but not quite there, and wind was on my bow. I used the boat hook to pull the stern in...mistake, which exposed the bow to the breeze, pushing it away from the dock. Thankfully, there wasn't another boat in the slip, and the bow swung around and I was able to start over. Of course, by that time I had spectators that could properly assist me. The second

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continued from Page 5 - Executive Department

Waterproof Emergency Strobe Light: Look for a small, powerful, and capable strobe to signal for help in low-light conditions.

Safety Knife: A marine-grade knife with corrosion resistance, essential for handling emergencies involving ropes or fishing lines.

Enduring gift ideas in the price range of \$100 and Above: Automatic Inflatable Life Jacket: Comfortable and reliable, it's a great investment in safety. Most also include a safety whistle with lanyard mentioned above.

Personal Locator Beacon (PLB): This device provides GPS location information directly to rescue services in emergencies.

VHF Marine Radio: This ensures reliable communication beyond cell phone range, a must-have for safety on larger waterbodies. Even if your boating loved one has a mounted radio aboard, a hand-held VHF radio is also an essential safety device for the dinghy and on-the-go from the boat.

As you search for the perfect holiday gift, consider one that brings peace of mind and safety on the water. From essential tools to high-tech lifesavers, these boating gifts make thoughtful additions to any boater's kit, helping to ensure safe adventures year-round. And as you wrap up your holiday shopping, remember that one of the best gifts you can give yourself is the camaraderie and community of fellow boaters. Join us for one of our Squadron dinner meetings, where we share our passion for boating, swap stories, and learn new skills. We'd love to see you there and welcome you into our boating family. Safe boating and happy holidays!

- Nick

continued from Page 7, - Education Department

attempt looked like I knew what I was doing. Once secured, I tucked my tail between my legs and went home.

By Friday evening, the boat was fixed, but it was late, so we stayed another night. Thinking we were all fixed, we decided to go for a cruise the next day and enjoy the rest of the weekend.

Shortly after leaving Cap Sante, I noticed the Starboard engine wasn't showing a full charge on the battery. I checked the alternator, and sure enough it wasn't working, so we went back and got to work on that. I decided to call the mechanic again, even though I've changed it before on the other engine, and I was glad I did. He tinkered with the alternator, trying to rebuild it, but unfortunately wasn't able to. It turns out the leak must have been there for a while, spraying salt water on the alternator. That was another day lost to get parts, but the mechanic only charged me about \$100 for the labor on the alternator, and the labor for the pump was very reasonable as well. That was well worth it because my first mate and I enjoyed an evening in Anacortes of dinner, dancing, and relaxing. Shout out to Aaron at Protorque motors, for giving us the opportunity to relax and enjoy each other. We finally made it back to Everett late Sunday the weekend after the outing began.

The entire cruise probably cost me 2 boat units in parts, labor fuel and moorage, but it could have been worse. It highlights one thing that I tell anyone that's planning to go boating. Be flexible. If you can't be flexible in your plan when boating, you're never going to be able to enjoy yourself.

*Yours in Boating,
Brian*



<https://safeboatingcampaign.com/>

Everett Sail and Power Squadron is
AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB
 of Snohomish County

BOATING EDUCATION SCHEDULE for 2025

AMERICA'S BOATING COURSE - ABC

Schedule TBD

All 8-HOUR ABC courses will be taught face-to-face, at THE EVERETT YACHT CLUB. The course cost is \$60 per person. Register on the website under BOATING EDUCATION/AMERICA'S BOATING COURSE. RSVP Linda Martin 425-422-4721 Note: Registration closes 2 weeks prior, but the class may still have space.

GO TO www.boatclubsnoco.org
 FOR MORE DETAILS and link to register and pay

Free Seminars

Everett Sail and Power Squadron – America's Boating Club of Snohomish County will be hosting free Seminar's in lieu of a regular monthly meeting. Bring a guest. Popcorn will be provided. Bring your own dinner. Our next Seminar in place of a monthly meeting is:

PARTNER IN COMMAND
 March 3, 2026
 Everett Fireman's Hall

GO TO www.boatclubsnoco.org
 FOR MORE DETAILS

If there is a class or seminar you would like to see offered, or you would like to help out, reach out to us at
edu.boatnoco@gmail.com



MASTER LIST OF USPS COURSES

If any of these courses interest you, give us a call. We will schedule one in Everett or we will help search District 16 for a squadron teaching the course you want to take.

Brian Rachal 425-280-3557
Joellyn Jackson 425-347-0763

ADVANCED GRADES

Boat Handling: How the heck do I get this boat to do what I want?

Marine Navigation (aka Piloting): How to get from here to there without running into something.

Advanced Marine Navigation (aka Advanced Piloting): Navigation under more difficult circumstances while using electronic tools, especially GPS all the while taking wind and currents into account.

Off-shore Navigation (aka Junior Navigation or JN): When off-shore there are no longer landmarks for reference; we must substitute celestial objects such as the sun.

Celestial Navigation (aka Navigation or N): The final navigation course focuses on sextant use---for when all your electronics fail!

ELECTIVES

Cruising and Cruise Planning: You're going on a two-week cruise in Canada – what do I take? Customs? Forbidden fruits & veggies? What if I get hurt? We answer all these questions and more!

Engine Maintenance: Diesel, gasoline, spark plugs, pistons, fuel mixtures, . . and how they all work together to get you where you're going.

Instructor Development (ID): Want to teach a course? We'll show you how! Open only to members.

Marine Electrical Systems (MES): There is one system on the boat and one that you plug into at the dock, which is which?

Marine Communications Systems (MCS): It can be a matter of life or death to be able to communicate with the first responders. We teach you how to make a SOS call and more.

Electronic Navigation Systems (ENS):

Radar for Boaters: The systems used to navigate by on the boat are changing as we speak. Learn now before they crihange.

Sail: What are all those lines and gadgets for? Are you sure the wind will blow me where I want to go?

Weather: Look to the clouds, wind and temperature for safe boating weather.

Holiday Offer for ABC D16 Members

Mastering the Salish Sea – Only \$50 (Save \$25!)

Ahoy ABC D16 Members!

Celebrate the holidays with a special member-only offer from **America's Boating Club of the San Juan Islands (ABCSJI)**!

Now through **December 31, 2025**, ABCSJI and ABC District 16 members can purchase our popular **Mastering the Salish Sea Series** for **just \$50** — a **\$25 savings** off the regular member price of \$75.



Explore. Learn. Cruise with Confidence.

Discover the beauty and challenges of cruising the **Salish Sea** with this exclusive seminar bundle, featuring **five of our most popular recorded sessions**—each designed and presented by award-winning instructor **Ann Einboden** and other experienced ABCSJI cruising experts.

Together, they share years of local, on-the-water experience, offering **practical navigation tips, weather insights, and safety knowledge** to help you explore this remarkable region with confidence and enjoyment.

Your bundle includes:

- Cruising the San Juan Islands – Part 1
- Cruising the San Juan Islands – Part 2
- Cruising the San Juan Islands – Part 3
- Marine Weather in the Salish Sea
- Tides and Currents – Salish Sea Emphasis

Each seminar is recorded and available **anytime, at your convenience**. Once you purchase, you'll receive a CourseStorm (our education platform) email receipt with your personal viewing links (check your spam/junk folder if needed). The links never expire!

Holiday Offer Price: \$50 (normally \$75 for ABC members), use coupon code **D16Holiday2025** at checkout

Offer valid through: December 31, 2025

Questions or issues? Contact us at seo@abcsji.org

Don't miss this chance to expand your boating knowledge this winter and get inspired for your next Salish Sea adventure!

Get the Series Now | <https://abcsji.coursestorm.com/course/the-san-juan-island-bundle>

If you are planning a trip to the San Juan Islands, be sure to check out our new series, Harbors of the San Juans, featuring Friday Harbor and Roche Harbor on our YouTube Channel <https://www.youtube.com/@abcsji/playlists>

Warm holiday wishes,

America's Boating Club of the San Juan Islands

A Proud Member of ABC District 16

IT'S BEEN A REALLY BIG YEAR!! BUT WE ARE NOT DONE, YET!!!

by P/C Linda Martin, JN

2025 has been an exceptional year for **Boating Safety 4 Kids**. There have been a lot of events with a lot of children and parents listening to our presentation. And we are not done yet. In December there are two events on the same day.

ONE: Mill Creek Town Center Santa Parade starts at 4 pm on December 6th next to LA Fitness and travels south and ends at Town and Country Market with the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony AND Holiday Vendor Market. Every year Linda marches down Main Street as "PFD Seagull" and passes out stickers to the children along the way. She'd love to have a partner. There are other events going on all day (9:30am to 7:30pm) in the Mill Creek Town Center like Santa Photos, Ornament making, Letters to Santa, etc. For more information go to www.MillCreekTownCenter.biz

TWO: Holiday by the Bay. The Port of Everett invites community members and visitors to join in a day of family fun at the waterfront during its 18th annual **Holiday by the Bay** festival taking place Saturday, December 6, from noon – 6 p.m. Rain or shine, guests will gather in and around the Port's Pacific Rim Plaza, near Hotel Indigo, for the day's outdoor festivities including a holiday pop-up market, food trucks, *free* kids' activities from crafts, face painting and balloon twisters to touch-a-truck, character meet-and-greets, a tree-lighting ceremony and visit from Santa, lighted boats on parade, festive music, lighting displays and more. Cdr Annette Ferguson, AP leads the way with this event. Under a pop-up tent, she and her volunteers have crafts for the children to decorate for Christmas. This is a great opportunity to share the mission of the Everett Sail and Power Squadron, America's Boating Club of Snohomish County to the recreational boater. If you'd like to help Annette, just let her know.

THREE: 2026 is already booking up for more **Boating Safety 4 Kids** events. We start January 30-31 and February 1 at the **Seattle Boat Show** assisting the kids with life jackets at the Aqua Paddlers area on the ground floor. This is a new location, and we will be able to reach way more children than the former Seminar location we had in the past. We will still be able to teach the kids about life jackets as we help them into the paddle

boats. We will also have a table to display and discuss the many opportunities that the United States Power Squadrons, America's Boating Club has to offer. Linda will recruit volunteers not only from Everett, but the rest of District 16 squadrons. If you'd like to help, get into the Seattle Boat Show for free, park for free, just let Linda Martin know PFDprettyfancedude@yahoo.com.

Next is the **Mill Town Sailing Association** who have invited **Boating Safety 4 Kids** to be the speaker at their February 28th meeting in the Muse Building. Would you like to help Linda?

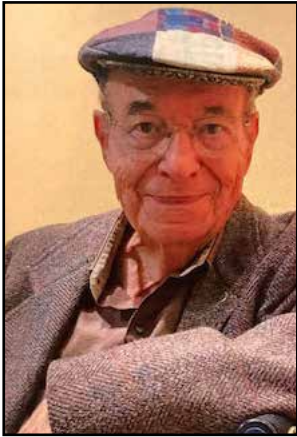


November Meeting's presentation was speaker and author, Susan Marie Conrad, who delivered a most inspiring story of her journey from San Juan Islands to Sitka, Alaska, in a kayak. If you missed out, you can buy her book, Inside. A good Christmas gift.



**IN MEMORY of P/C RALPH QUASS, AP
MARCH 26, 1934 – OCTOBER 10, 2025**

by P/C's Mike and Linda Martin



Ralph Herbert Quaas joined the Everett Power Squadron (as it was called back in the day) in 1968 as a young boater with a family living in Everett. He and his family loved boating and crabbing. His favorite cruising area was the San Juan Islands.

Not only did he love to travel by boat, but he visited 49 of the 50 states and many trips to Germany to visit family. Many of us long-time Everett residents remember his flower shop, City Floral in downtown Everett. He took over his father's shop in 1966 and retired in 2006, 60 years of arranging flowers for the Snohomish County residents.

He became our commander in 1980 six years before Mike and I joined the squadron. Our memory of Ralph was his teaching the Basic Boating Course to give Merle Bunn a break. He had 28 Merit Marks and had served the squadron well. He was a Life Member, also. What memories of Ralph do you have?

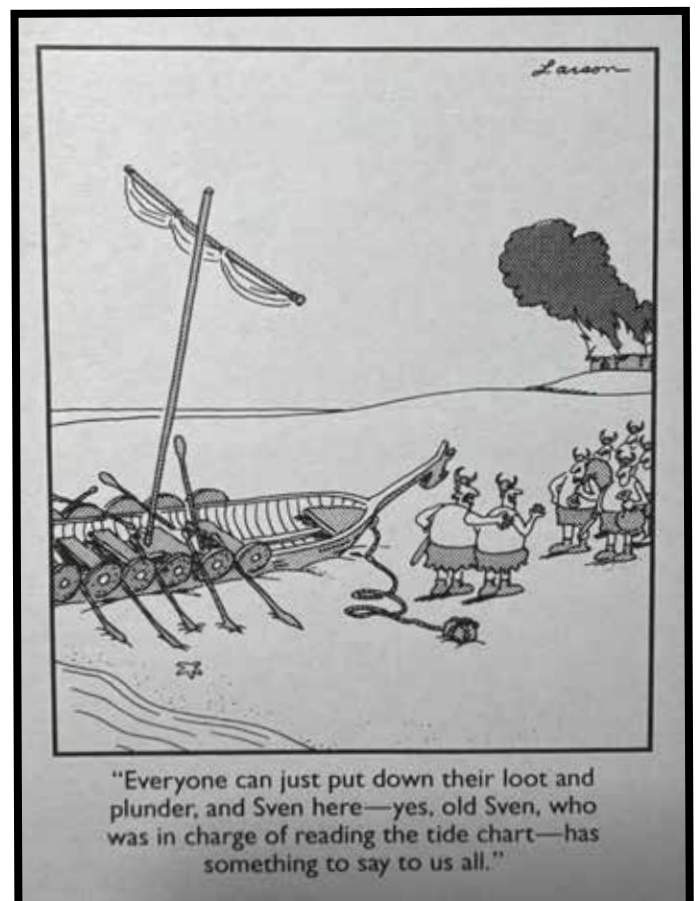
He has not attended many meetings in the last few years, but I have had the honor of calling the inactive members monthly and chatting with Ralph.

I attended his Celebration of Life service at Our Savior's Lutheran Church on November 8. There were over 400 friends and family at his service. The celebration was mainly friends and family and co-workers sharing stories about Ralph. Most of the stories were very funny. He didn't mind being the object of a joke. He loved serving others for his whole life through many organizations like the Rotary Club of Everett, Volunteers of America Food Bank, St. Vincent De Paul, the Lutheran Church and the Everett Sail and Power Squadron.

Our sympathy goes to his daughter, Kari, his wife, Kay, and her daughters Jenny, Jane, Josie, and Gina.



Ralph with his boat



Shared by Randy Krumm



YIPPEE SKIPPEE WE MADE IT TO OUR GOAL!!!!

Do you remember Everett Sail and Power Squadron, America's Boating Club of Snohomish County's **Christmas House Bike Fund Goal for 2025?**

It was \$2,000 and we met the goal. **We raised \$2036.54.** I want to thank so many members who stepped up to donate lots AND LOTS of money to provide the coveted Christmas gift of any child, especially the ones who are in need.

As one of the volunteers at the Christmas House Gift Distribution Event in the past, I have seen a few parents choose a bike when it was their turn to pick out gifts for their children. They are so touched by the opportunity to give their child a bicycle as well as other gifts, books, hats, gloves, etc.

Next month I will share just how many bikes we were able to donate this year. If you have not signed up to volunteer at Christmas House this year, there are two dates that are not filled yet, December 5 and 6. Go to www.Christmas-House.org and click on *Volunteer* to get the information and then

Register to Volunteer to sign up. You will not regret it one bit.



HIGHWAY MARINERS 2026 RENDEZVOUS

by P/C Mike Martin, P

We have planned most of our trips for 2026, and the holiday weekends are already on the calendar. Even our long trip in the planning stage. **Reserve the nights dated.**

The places are.....

May 7-10 -- River Bend RV Resort in Twisp

May 21-25 -- Dosewallips on Hood Canal

June 2-5 -- D-16 Rendezvous

June 5-6 -- Port Ludlow RV Park, RSVP Dave McBride, Bremerton Squadron

July 2-5 -- Wenatchee River County RV Park

Two Week Trip -- Sometime in August -- California/ Oregon Coast or someplace else, still working on that.
September 3-8 -- TBA

If you are interested in joining us, please reach out to Mike Martin NOW and he can fill you in on the details and contact numbers.

Everyone wanting to camp with the Highway Mariners needs to make their own reservations. Mike can help you with the websites and phone numbers. After you have made a reservation, contact Mike Martin 425-330-6990 or frugalboatnut@frontier.com with your space number.



Everett Sail and Power Squadron is
AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB
of Snohomish County

BECOME A SKILLED BOATER

🚩 UPCOMING COURSES 🚩

⚓ ABC (AMERICA'S BOATING COURSE) ⚓ FALL AND SPRING

Great for learning boat skills for aspiring captains & their shipmates!
This course meets the Washington State Boater Education Card requirement, and reduces many boat insurance premiums.

⚓ BOAT HANDLING - FALL AND SPRING ⚓

Recommended for those who have a Boater Education Card.

Learn the responsibilities of being a Captain, how to prepare your boat for launch, boat handling under various conditions, anchoring, how to tie knots and lines and how to deal with boat emergencies.

🚩 UPCOMING SEMINARS 🚩

⚓ INTRO TO MARINE BATTERIES - OCTOBER 2025 ⚓

⚓ PARTNER IN COMMAND - MARCH 2026 ⚓

⚓ FREE VESSEL SAFETY CHECKS ⚓

A free service offered by America's Boating Club of Snohomish County and is part of being a responsible boat operator. The check gives you peace of mind that your recreational boat has all required safety equipment.

To request a Vessel Safety Check,
Contact Danny Daniels, dannyldaniels@gmail.com

CHECK OUT OTHER OPPORTUNITIES!

CONTACT US AT: BOATCLUBSNOCO.ORG | EDU.BOATSNOCO@GMAIL.COM





Vessel Safety Check
Website



Visit: <http://www.usps.org/national/vsc/>

Visit: <http://www.safetysail.net>

Vessel Safety Check

Anyone who would like a vessel safety check done on their boat

Contacts are below:

VSC Chairman

Lt Danny Daniels, AP 206/229-9649

DannyLDaniels@gmail.com

D/Lt/C James West, JN 425/778-0283

phnx789@msn.com

Vessel Safety Exam 2026

Contact: [Lt Danny L. Daniels, AP](#) for

[Vessel Safety Checks Schedule](#)

[Please Check Back for Dates](#)

Starting in February through October: The second Saturday of every month we will be at the Port of Everett and Dagmar's from 9am to 3pm. Pre-registration is appreciated.

VSC... PERMISSION TO COME ABOARD!

by Lt Danny Daniels, AP

Looking for a simple way to volunteer and provide a valued service to the boating community at large? WE offer FREE Vessel Safety Checks to all boats under 65 foot, and that takes Examiners. Most examinations are under an hour; and you will meet some fascinating boaters as well as touring some beautiful boats.

Can you do this ?? YES YOU CAN!! Just a simple Training Course and a brief test at the end, and you are ready to start checking vessels. Your first 5 vessels will be in the company of a currently certified Examiner; you will watch 2 VSChecks and then do 3 more on your own while being assisted. Then you will be ready do checks on your own. WE also do events for Yacht Clubs where we meet on a special day and cover 15 to 20 boats. **Contact:** Lt Danny L Daniels AP -if you would like to start.

MERK MARK RESULTS

by P/C Linda Martin, AP and P/Lt/C Chuck Taylor, N

Listed below are the recipients of the United States Power Squadron's Merit Mark Award. Each year you are recognized by the service you provide to the Everett Sail and Power Squadron, America's Boating Club of Snohomish County. A minimum of 15 to 20 hours qualifies a member to receive a merit mark. This year 23 members have received a merit mark. The Everett Boat Club is considered one of the most active boat clubs in the United States Power Squadrons and it's all because of these members who step up and serve in all sorts of capacities. We thank them for their service.

If you don't see your name on this list and you feel like you have contributed 15 to 20 hours, please contact Linda Martin or Chuck Taylor to share your **service report**. **There is still time to turn in this information for the year 2025.**

Thanks again to those who serve.

Darcy Baker
Gary Baker
Jerry Bass
Danny Daniels
Dan Ferguson
Claire Greer
Frank Havens
Joellyn Jackson
Randy Krumm
Mike Martin
Linda Martin



Perry Moore
Greg Nelson
Brian Rachal
Cathy Rich
Nick Rich
Linda Skugstad
John Tarpley
Susan Tarpley
Sarah Taylor
Chuck Taylor
Sharon Ward
Jim West

Compass

Set a Course for Better Boating

Choosing the right anchor



[READ MORE](#)

Learn the fundamentals of anchor and rode selection, and you'll be ready to launch with confidence.



TO JOIN THE **COMMUNITY** REWARDS PROGRAM:

- Have your Freddy's card handy
- If you do not yet have a Freddy's card they are available at the customer service desk at any Freddy's or Kroger or QFC store.
- Register your Freddy's card online at the www.FredMeyer.com/CommunityRewards
- Click on "Enroll". Follow the steps to create an account and link it to your Freddy's card number.
- Enter our NPO number which is BD627 or Everett Sail and Power Squadron and click on "confirm".



Our Club's monthly food drive is still on-going, so please help us to help others. Current Needs at the local food banks include:

- Canned Goods
- Boxed Meals Cereal or Oatmeal
- Protein or Breakfast Bars
- Kitchen Staples
- Toiletries
- Feminine Products
- Baby & Adult Diapers and Wipes
- Pet Food
- Monetary Donations

HARBOR MARINE
60,000 sq ft
of marine accessories, parts, service,
grocery, engines, transmissions,
restaurant & more!
Everett waterfront on 10th St.
425-259-3285 Open seven days a
week
1032 W. Marine View Dr. Everett, WA 98201

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PACIFIC POWER BATTERIES .com
"Batteries for Everything"TM
8 Stores to Serve You!

We have you covered!

- Northstar AGM batteries
- Lifeline AGM batteries
- Crown batteries:
 - Wet Lead Acid & AGM
- Cables, Connectors, Test Equip., and Knowledgeable Staff

Free Testing! (at store)
Free dockside delivery

800-326-7406
call us find your nearby store

USPS Member Benefits Link

https://www.usps.org/national/admin_dept/benefitsdescription.htm

The Pike Pole is the official publication of the Everett Sail and Power Squadron, America's Boating Club of Snohomish County, a unit of the UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS, published monthly September through June.

Editor: Lt Linda Skugstad, AP

E-Mail: info.boatsnoco@gmail.com

Articles & photos must be received no later than the second Friday of the month. Articles should be in Adobe In-Design compatible format, preferably Word format for Windows and .jpg for photos, send via email.

Webmaster: Lt Linda Skugstad, AP-info.boatsnoco@gmail.com



2026 D/16 Rendezvous

Port Ludlow Marina

June 5—7 2026

PLAN NOW FOR ANOTHER FUN AND EXCITING TIME IN PORT LUDLOW!

WHAT'S IN STORE:

- 15 slips reserved under “USPS—D16”
- 5 king-size rooms reserved at The Old Alcohol Plant Inn
- Port Ludlow RV Park for RVers

WHAT'S IN STORE ON FRIDAY!

- 5 p.m. Big Tent Docktails on Friday evening

WHAT'S IN STORE ON SATURDAY?

- 9 a.m. Big Tent Morning Wake-Up with coffee/sweets
- 6 p.m. Big Tent Catered Taco Bar Dinner
- Silent Auction [Squadrons start thinking about your donations]
- Plenty of time for Seminars, Games, Vessel Safety Checks, Co-op Charting and other adventures in the area

Questions? Contact Dave McBride 360.228.6003 or email: davmcb@comcast.net

Everett Sail and Power Squadron is



Online "Members Only": Please see Roster for phone numbers and email addresses

BRIDGE

Cdr Annette Ferguson, AP commander.boatsnoco@gmail.com
Executive Officer Lt/C Nick Rich, AP rich.nicholas@outlook.com
Admin. Officer Lt/C Susan Tarpley, AP activities.boatsnoco@gmail.com
Educational Officer Lt/C Brian Rachal, AP edu.boatsnoco@gmail.com
Assistant Educational Officer 1st/Lt/C Cathy Rich, AP
Secretary P/C Gary Baker, AP-IN
Treasurer Lt/C Frank Havens AP-IN trea.boatsnoco@gmail.com
Asst. Treasurer Lt/C Randy Krumm

P/C Darcy Baker, AP
P/C Linda Martin, JN
D/Lt/C Jim West, JN
Lt Claire Greer, AP

Lt Linda Skugstad, AP
Lt Danny Daniels, AP
Lt Perry Moore
Lt Don Doody

COMMANDER'S DEPARTMENT:

Chaplain P/C Linda Martin, JN
Community Relations Cdr Annette Ferguson, AP
Flag Officer OPEN
Law Officer D/C Gary Baker, AP-IN
Merit Marks P/Lt/C Chuck Taylor, SN

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT:

Adopt-a-Street Lt Danny Daniels, AP
Public Relations Officer P/C Darcy Baker, AP
Safety P/C Frank Havens, AP-IN
Sea Scout Liaison Lt Danny Daniels, AP
Vessel Safety Check Chairperson Lt Danny Daniels, AP

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT:

Boating Activities Lt/C Susan Tarpley, AP
Galley Crew Lt Sharon Ward
New Members P/D/C Annette Ferguson, AP,
P/C Frank Havens, AP-IN,
Ship's Store Lt/C Susan Tarpley, AP
Highway Mariners P/C Mike Martin, P

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

Adv/Elec Grades and Teaching Aids P/Lt/C Joellyn Jackson, S-IN
ABC P/C Linda Martin, JN PFDprettyfancydude@yahoo.com
Seminars Lt/C Brian Rachal, AP edu.boatsnoco@gmail.com
Boating Safety 4 Kids P/C Linda Martin, JN PFDprettyfancydude@yahoo.com
On-The-Water, Jump Start Chair P/C John Tarpley, AP

SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT:

Editor The Pike Pole & Webmaster Lt Linda Skugstad, AP
info.boatsnoco@gmail.com
Social Media Chair 1st/Lt/C Cathy Rich, AP

MONTHLY GATHERINGS

When: First Tuesday of the month except July & August,
Second Wednesday of the month in November.
(Meeting dates may change on occasion)

Time: Social 6:30 pm
Dinner 7:00 pm
Program 7:30 pm
Location: Firefighters Hall
2411 Hewitt Ave.
Everett, WA 98201

<http://www.boatclubsnoco.org>

Contact Cdr for Members Only Password

D-16: <http://www.uspsd16.org>

Facebook: [America's Boating Club of Snohomish County](#)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

When: Second Tuesday of each month except July
Time: Business Meeting 1830 (6:30 pm)
Location: ON ZOOM
All members welcome!



Standing Committees...

Telephone Committee

P/C Linda Martin, JN
P/Lt/C Nick Rich, AP
Lt Elaine Keasey, S

General Committees....

Auditing...

1 yr Susan Green, P
2 yrs P/C John Tarpley, AP

Rules...

P/C Gary Baker, AP-IN
P/C Annette Ferguson, AP

Nominating...

1 yr Lt Perry Moore
2 yrs P/C Gary Baker, AP-IN
3 yrs P/C Darcy Baker, AP



The USPS® Pledge

"I do solemnly pledge to:

**Abide by the bylaws of the United States Power Squadrons;
Promote high standards of navigation and seamanship;
Maintain my boat and operate it legally;
Render assistance whenever possible; And conduct myself in a
manner that will add prestige, honor,
and respect to the United States Power Squadrons."**

