

# AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB



of the *North Olympic Peninsula*



## STRAITLINES NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2024



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**RAY MAHALICK**

**Commander**

[meho2@msn.com](mailto:meho2@msn.com)

Spring is finally here, starting the boating season for most of us and time to bring in a new Bridge for the next year. Our Change of Watch will be on April 9<sup>th</sup> at the PAYC, details follow in this newsletter. During my stint as Commander, my main goal was to return our Squadron back to a sense of normalcy, so to speak.

Covid upset everybody's life, how and what we normally did changed, just as it changed with our Squadron. Boating became more popular during Covid, what better way to isolate? Yet as an organization we could not hold in person classes, conduct monthly clinics or hold monthly business/speaker meetings. We didn't have much to offer our membership, and as a result, we lost members.

But now we are back teaching in person classes, conducting monthly clinics, and having business/speaker meetings once again. Are things back to normal, no, but we have resumed doing what we have done well in the past. Our membership numbers have stabilized, increased marginally even, thanks to you who have stayed with us. Is doing what we have done in the past going to work for us in the future? Maybe and maybe not, but it's a starting point that I felt we had to get to before we go making major adjustments. "Come for the education, stay for the friends" is what we are all about, how we best accomplish that in the future, that is the challenge we face.

I want to thank our current Bridge for all that you have done for me and this Squadron this past year, without volunteers like you, we do not function. I also want to thank our current Membership for your continued support thru these turbulent times. Without Members like you, we do not exist.

It has been my honor to serve as your Commander this past year, Thank You all for your support.

### HAPPY EASTER



**Alayne Fellows, P**  
**Straitlines Editor**

[alaynef@gmail.com](mailto:alaynef@gmail.com)

**Submissions received in formats other than .doc, .docx, .jpg, or .gif will not be published.**

Bellevue—Bellingham—Bremerton—Deception Pass—Everett—Friday Harbour—North Olympic

North Star — Olympia — Point Wilson — Poverty Bay — Seattle — Skagit Bay — Spokane — Tacoma



TOM FITZPATRICK

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

xo.nosps.tfitz@gmail.com



The Mary James

See you all next month as I am on vacation in Florida



### 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.®**



**DIANE LACY**

**Administrative Officer**

[ao.nosps.dlacy@gmail.com](mailto:ao.nosps.dlacy@gmail.com)



**Magic Carpet**

We had very good attendance at our March dinner event! Our speakers from the Olympic Peninsula Paddling Club were informative and good questions/discussions developed regarding the interactions between kayakers and boaters. A bit like, 'Walk A Mile in by Shoes' from both perspectives!

Next event is our Change of Watch dinner on Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at the PAYC – this will be a 'Spaghetti Night' potluck! Our club will be boiling pasta and putting together a basic **meatless** tomato marinara sauce. Potluck contributions could be meatballs/sausages, garlic bread, salads, charcuterie, mozzarella and pesto sauce, desserts. Time is as below, but for a potluck we'll be in the kitchen earlier in the day, setting up – come by earlier if you have time to help out. And **please** RSVP along with your potluck dish to [ao.nosps.dlacy@gmail.com](mailto:ao.nosps.dlacy@gmail.com)

5:00 – 5:30	Social Time
5:30 – 5:45	Business Meeting
5:45 – 6:30	Dinner
6:30 – 7:00	Change of Watch
7:00 – 7:30	TBD Speaker

**Update on the Port Angeles Maritime Festival 2024, June 8<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>:** We will be hosting a booth within the 'big' tent, 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM each day and need volunteers to set-up and host our booth. The overall theme for the festival is '**Marine Industry Careers**', sort of a 'career' day flavor which completely makes sense for the community. We've volunteered to bring knot tying practice boards, would anybody like to volunteer for that? My research shows that the following are the essential nautical knots:

Cleat Hitch, Halyard Hitch, Midshipman's Hitch, Clove Hitch, Half Hitch, Two Half Hitches, Round Turn and Two Half Hitches, Slippery Half Hitch, Lark's Head, Single Sheet Bend, Double Sheet Bend, Trucker's Hitch, Rolling Hitch, Buntline, Bowline, Figure 8 (Flemish Knot), Flemish Bend, Flemish Loop, Reef Knot, Carrick Bend, and Anchor Bend.

Not sure what 'practice knot tying' boards entails...a separate board for each knot? A big board with all knots? Both? Real cord or string? I need some help here!

***"To be successful at sea we must keep things simple." – Pete Culler, Designer, Traditional Wooden Small Craft***





BERNIE ARMSTRONG  
Education Officer

[seo.abcofnop@gmail.com](mailto:seo.abcofnop@gmail.com)

## ABC of NOP Education Update

Please visit your ABC of NOP website, to learn what is happening and join in.



# ABC Course



Get your Washington State Boaters Card

Required for all boaters with motors of 15 hp or more  
Course is Free!

Saturday April 13<sup>rd</sup> 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

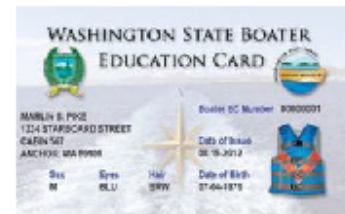
Sunday April 14<sup>rd</sup> 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Port Angeles Yacht Club

1305 Marine Drive

30 students maximum

Be a Better Boater



Sign up at <https://northolympicboaters.com/education/abc-course/>

Email: [seo.abcofnop@gmail.com](mailto:seo.abcofnop@gmail.com)





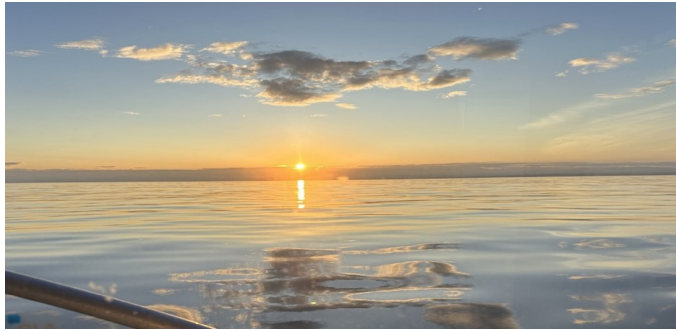
**KAREN MAHALICK**

**Membership Chair**

**kmahalick@hotmail.com**

## ***MEMBERSHIP***

**Come for the Boating Education.  
Stay for the friends**



It is Spring and time to prepare for getting out on the water to enjoy the days.

If you would like to check what personal information the National website has for you go to:

<https://www.usps.org/member-s-log-in>.

This is also where you will be able to update your contact information if necessary.

I enjoyed getting together with members at the Big Elk Diner for our Dinner Meeting where the Olympic Peninsula Paddlers gave an excellent overview of their organization and best practices on the water.



Our March 2024 membership stands at 68.



**Alayne Fellows, P**  
Editor, Straitlines

Please send all articles to:  
Email: [alaynef@gmail.com](mailto:alaynef@gmail.com)

***Submissions received in formats other than .doc, .docx, .jpg, or .gif will not be published.***

### **How to send documents or articles for the Newsletter**

1. Please have your articles to me by the 25th by 5PM.  
(If you are going to be late, please let me know)
2. Please use Arial 12 pt front for your articles
3. Please Single Space lines
4. Indent 3 spaces with each new paragraph
5. Label your article with your first and last name.
6. Submit all articles in word format and attached to your email.
7. All pictures are to be submitted as .jpg format
8. Run "spell check" before submitting your article

Thank you for your cooperation in making my task a lot easier and go a little faster!

**FREE - 2024 Vessel Safety Checks** are available & a great way to get ready for an enjoyable & safe boating season.

Please visit the following link, to learn more & make a reservation for a courtesy VSC on your boat.

<https://northolympicboaters.com/civic/vessel-safety/>

**Please contact us if you have any questions. Thank you from your squadron**

**Vessel Safety Check Examiners:**

Bernie Armstrong [bernie1221@gmail.com](mailto:bernie1221@gmail.com)

Randy Blackburn-Lappin [edbl16782@gmail.com](mailto:edbl16782@gmail.com)

Ray Mahalick [rmeho2@msn.com](mailto:rmeho2@msn.com)

Doug Schwarz [dougschwarz@gmail.com](mailto:dougschwarz@gmail.com)



There are moments in life when  
you miss someone so much that  
you just want to pick them from  
your dreams and hug them for real.

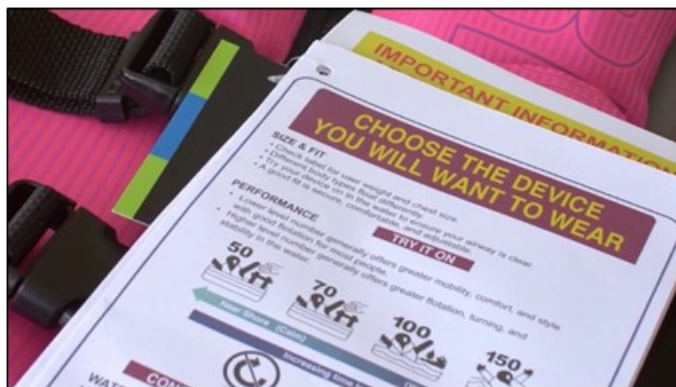


*Positivity, Love and all things Good.*

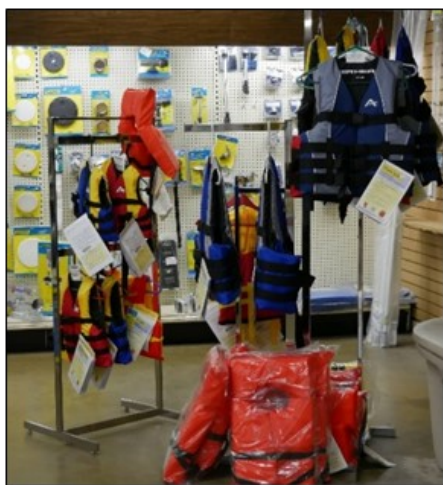
# America's Boating Channel™

## Understanding Life Jacket Labels

Let's start the year by getting our life jackets ready for the 2024 boating season. If you cleaned and inspected your life jackets before storing them for winter storage, you should know how many need to be replaced. Which brings us to our topic of life jacket labels. You may be unaware of the new labeling system if you have not purchased a life jacket recently. Type I, II, III and IV labeling was removed by the U.S. Coast Guard from the Code of Federal Regulations in 2014, but it is taking several years for the legacy designations to be phased out.



To help boaters understand the current labeling system, Season Four of America's Boating Channel offers the video "[Life Jacket Labels](#)" in which you are introduced to the simplified labels that contain less writing and more icons.



Regardless of your age or experience level, data shows that life jackets save lives. So don't hesitate to replace older life jackets. America's Boating Channel also produced a sequel entitled "[New Label Benefits](#)" that covers the advantages of the new life jacket labeling system. In this video, viewers learn how to interpret label icons. Also featured are tips for selecting the right life jacket for your intended on-the-water activity.

Follow the above links or visit <https://www.youtube.com/@AmericasBoatingChannel> to find these and other safe boating videos, which are an excellent tool to help recruit participants to our educational program and to membership. Invite your friends and neighbors to watch, like and subscribe to America's Boating Channel to introduce them to what our organization has to offer.

In addition to YouTube, these professionally produced high-definition safe boating and boater education videos are available via the America's Boating Channel free, on-demand app on Apple TV, Roku or FireTV. [America's Boating Channel™](#) is produced by the United States Power Squadrons® (USPS) under a grant from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund administered by the U.S. Coast Guard.

**Blow Up Your Life Jacket Every 2-6 months!**

**Inflate, Inspect for Leaks, Repack, and Wear It.**

**Use Oral Inflator**

Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Drowns  
PleaseWearIt.com



## PAYC 2024 Cruise Schedule

### **Pre-Shakedown Short Cruise > April 27<sup>th</sup> - May 1<sup>st</sup> (Cruise Captain – Cristina and Sean Eppers)**

- Destination Ports - Sequim Bay, Townsend (Mystery Bay or Point Hudson), then optional on to Port Hadlock, Mats Mats, or Port Ludlow

### **Shakedown Cruise > May 22<sup>nd</sup> – May 29<sup>th</sup> (Cruise Captain – TBD)**

- Destination Ports – Garrison Bay (anchor)/or Roche Harbor Marina, Stuart Island or Sucia Island, Deer Harbor Marina, Friday Harbor

### **Hands Across the Water Race > June 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> (Cruise Captain - Eric Mueller)**

- Race competition from Victoria to Port Angeles
- Other boaters not racing are encourage cruise the course in advance or in concert with the race

### **Maritime Festival Boat Parade > June 9<sup>th</sup> (Cruise Captain – TBD)**

- Opening boat parade past City Pier to open the Maritime Festival
- Starts at 10:15 from water in front of Yacht Club

### **Summer Solstice (Sailstice) Cruise > June 22<sup>st</sup> (Cruise Captain – TBD)**

- Overnight or evening cruise or paddle to celebrate the Summer Solstice

### **Gulf Island Cruise > June 12<sup>th</sup> – June 28<sup>th</sup> (Cruise Captain – Cristina and Sean Eppers and Randy Volker)**

- Destination Port – Telegraph Harbour Marina, Thetis Island, B.C.
- Cruise will include various destinations in Canada both before after Telegraph Harbour (such as Sidney, Ganges, Mill Bay, Maple Bay, Genoa Bay, Ladysmith, Nanaimo, Pender Island, Montague Harbour)

### **Canada Day Cruise > June 28<sup>th</sup> – July 2<sup>nd</sup> (Cruise Captain –Chris Boyd)**

- Destination Port – Victoria Harbour
- Reservations with Victoria Harbour Authority for dockage on Causeway needed. They no longer raft boats up, so there is even less space available than in the past. Make your reservations ASAP!

### **July 4<sup>th</sup> Boat Parade (Cruise Captain – TBD)**

- Parade cruise in Port Angeles Harbor from Yacht Club along Port Angeles Waterfront
- BBQ and activities at PAYC after parade

### **“To the lighthouse” - Virginia Woolf Cruise – July - Date TBD ((Cruise Captain – Paul Kolesnikoff)**

- Day trip to Dungeness Lighthouse with option for anchoring out in Sequim Bay for an overnight
- Anchor out your boat and hike to the lighthouse

### **Sea Scouts/PAYC Joint Mid/South Sound Cruise > July 24th - Aug 7th (Cruise Captains - Jared Minard &**

- Join up with the Sea Scouts on their cruise. **Wayne Melquist)**
- Destinations – To Olympia or Tacoma and points in between (Port Townsend, Kingston, Gig Harbor, Poulsbo, Bremerton, Port Orchard, Blake Island )

### **Makah Days “Land Cruise” > August 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> (Cruise Captain – TBD)**

- Travel by car or boat to Neah Bay for Makah Day activities

### **San Juan Islands and Points North Cruise – September 9<sup>th</sup> – September 24<sup>th</sup> (Cruise Captain – Randy Volker)**

- Destinations – San Juans Islands, Anacortes, Bellingham

### **Port Angeles City Pier “Take-Over” Events – various dates to be announced**

- Wednesday Night Rendezvous of boats and Club members for “Concerts on the Pier”
- Listen to the music and socialize from the pier and on member’s boats

#### Notes:

- A Cruise Planning and Captain’s Meeting will be held prior to each cruise
- Participating boaters need to commit to specific cruises as soon as possible to help with marina coordination
- Each boater will make individual marina reservation, as instructed by the cruise director

CONTACT: [Cruising@payc.org](mailto:Cruising@payc.org) to sign up for one of the many cruises





## SWAP and SHOP

If you have an item or items you would like to sell?  
Please send the information to our Editor Alayne Fellows  
and she will list it here!

**NEW**

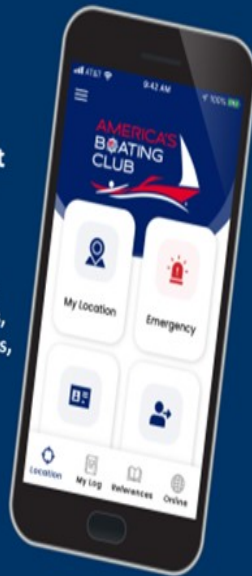
### America's Boating Club FREE Mobile App For Your Phone or Tablet

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.

**DOWNLOAD NOW!**

AmericasBoatingClub.org  
Apple Store  
Google Play Store



U.S. Coast Guard image by Scott Giard.

## Membership Number and Pin

Each new member is assigned a membership number.

That number is on your membership certificate.

**SAVE IT!!**

You need it to enroll in courses

Also you are given a Pin number.

Need Pin number to access member websites.

**SAVE IT!!**

# phonetic alphabet

<b>A</b> alpha	<b>B</b> bravo	<b>C</b> charlie
<b>D</b> delta	<b>E</b> echo	<b>F</b> foxtrot
<b>G</b> golf	<b>H</b> hotel	<b>I</b> india
<b>J</b> juliett	<b>K</b> kilo	<b>L</b> lima
<b>M</b> mike	<b>N</b> november	<b>O</b> oscar
<b>P</b> papa	<b>Q</b> quebec	<b>R</b> romeo
<b>S</b> sierra	<b>T</b> tango	<b>U</b> uniform
<b>V</b> victor	<b>W</b> whiskey	<b>X</b> xray
<b>Y</b> yankee	<b>Z</b> zulu	

With this NATO alphabet chart you will no longer use "M as in Mancy" during a support call with your mom, or while defusing a bomb.



**semaphore**  
Pre-electronic flag letter signals for naval communication represented in a circle. The peace sign was created by combining the letters N (Nuclear) and D (Disarmament).



**international morse code**  
The world's first digital code. The length of each letter's code corresponds to the frequency of that letter's usage in Morristown, New Jersey's newspaper in 1837.



**international code of signals**  
These maritime flags are used to visually communicate letters and messages while maintaining radio silence.

# AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

## UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®



**Commander**  
Ray Mahalick

**Education & Safety Officer**  
Bernie Armstrong

**Asst. Education Officer**  
Paul Areida

**Executive Officer**  
Tom Fitzpatrick

**Secretary/Treasurer**  
Karen Mahalick

**Members-At-Large**  
Doug Schwarz

**Administrative Officer**  
Diane Lacy

**Asst Administrative Officer**  
Chuck Sullivan

Open  
Open

**Past Commander**  
Jim Lewis

### COMMITTEES:

**ABC Chair:**  
Bernie Armstrong

**Facebook**  
Karen Mahalick

**Merit Marks**  
Doug Schwarz

**Rules Committee:**  
Doug Schwarz

**Adopt-A-Marina Coordinator**  
open

**Financial Review**  
Tom O'Laughlin  
Marlene Lewis

**Nominating:**  
Ken Barnaby  
Ken Williams  
Jim Lewis

**Safety Officer**  
open

**Budget & Finance:**  
Judy Armstrong  
Karen Mahalick  
Marlene Lewis

**Historian**  
volunteer needed

**Photographer**  
Volunteer needed

**Ship Store:**  
open

**Chaplin:**  
Open

**Law Officer:**  
Paul Crone

**Planning Committee**  
Judy Armstrong

**Straitlines Editor:**  
Alayne Fellows

**Co-op Charting:**  
Ruth Kohl

**Liaison Officers:**  
Paul Kolesnikoff PAYC  
Open - SBYC

**Port Captains:**  
Randy Blackburn-Lappin

**SWAG:**  
Carl Zetterberg. Chair

**Cruise Director**  
Judy Armstrong

**Media:**  
Ken Williams  
Kathie Zetterberg

**Property Officer**  
Jan Jones

**Vessel Safety**  
Doug Schwarz  
Bernie Armstrong  
Ray Mahalick  
Randy Blackburn-Lappin

**Education & Safety:**  
Ray Mahalick-Jump Start  
Bernie Armstrong  
Ken Barnaby

**Operations Training:**  
Ray Mahalick

**Public Relations:**  
Tom Fitzpatrick

**Membership**  
Karen Mahalick

**Radio Technician:**  
Bruce Cutting

**Webmaster:**  
Carl Zetterberg



Boat Operator Certificate Program led by Regional Director and District 16 Treasurer, Dave McBride, Bremerton, who is qualified to teach and evaluate on-the-water skills. This session was held at the District 16 Rendezvous in 2023 at Poulsbo.

One of the many different skills and activities offered at  
the District Rendezvous

JUNE 21—23 2024

# SAVE THE DATE

## Bridge Meeting

Tuesday April 9, 2024 09:00 am

Sequim Bay Yacht Club

All members are welcome to attend

## ***NEXT General Meeting & Change of Watch***

**Tuesday APRIL 9, 2024**

5:00 – 5:30	Social Time
5:30 – 5:45	Business Meeting
5:45 – 6:30	Dinner
6:30 – 7:00	Change of Watch
7:00 – 7:30	TBD Speaker

***Port Angeles Yacht Club  
Port Angeles***

Visit the NOSPS Website at [http://  
northolympicboaters.com](http://northolympicboaters.com)



**The District 16 Web Page is at**

<http://www.usps.org/localusps/d16>

## ***Straitlines***

Alayne Fellows, Editor  
ABC of NOP  
Mail: PO Box 431  
Sequim WA 98382  
alaynef@gmail.com

