

Point Wilson Sail & Power Squadron

The Point

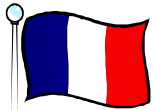
A unit of District 16 United States Power Squadrons



January, 2011

General Meeting

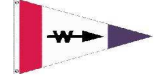
Tuesday, January 18
Potluck Dinner at 6PM at the
Port Townsend Yacht Club.
Meeting and Presentation to
follow



January's Presentation (7:15): Canal Boating In France

Bob and Molly Miller will share their September 2010 trip on the [Canal du Midi](#) in Southwest France. The Millers chartered a [canal boat](#) for 11 days. They will share slides of the canal and the surrounding historic and wine rich region. Information about several [charter companies](#), tips for transiting locks, and more tips for canal travel will be included.

FROM THE BRIDGE



BY: COMMANDER
NATALIE HUTTON, AP



Hi Members,

Well, a Happy New Year to everyone. Here's hoping that 2011 will be a year that all your personal goals and boating goals make it to the "finish line". I know we have a maintenance and repair "list" waiting for us in order to get things up & going on the boat within the next few months. I hope your list is shorter than ours!

This is my next to the last article that I will be writing as your Commander, and I want to tell everyone what a pleasure it has been to serve the organization. Jim & I became Point Wilson members in January 2006, and, since that time, I have served in four elected capacities. I began as your Secretary, then Administrative Officer (AO), to Executive Officer (XO), and finally to being your Commander. The year I served as AO was also the year Jim served as your Commander, so we had a rather busy household.

This year should be a good one with the new officer slate that awaits you. However, we still have **two important vacant slots** and need two members to step forward and fill those needs for the organization before the January meeting election! We are in need of an **Administrative Officer** whose duties this year have been re-organized. To lessen the load, your Executive Board has recommended that some of the former duties of this office be relegated to the Treasurer and some to the Executive Officer. The AO will now have three duties: purchasing and bringing the dinner supplies to the meeting and setting up/taking down; maintaining the "Phone Tree" and initiating it monthly or as needed when we have squadron events to announce; and ordering the "Name Badges" for new members. All of these jobs could be done by anyone who plans to be a regular meeting attendee throughout the year. Our group is really great about pitching in and helping out whenever someone can't make a meeting. There is always someone willing to cover if the AO has to be gone, so that is not a concern.

We're also in need of a **newsletter editor** for "The Point", our squadron monthly publication. The squadron owns the software that is used to format the newsletter and also the printer which we use to publish. Most of the newsletters are sent out electronically to members, advertisers, District Officers, and other Squadrons in our District 16, but a few need to be postage mailed to members who do not have email contact with hardcopies to our advertisers. Most often the contributed articles are written by your officers or are announcements that arrive to us via District for District and

Continued on P. 2

Greetings from CEO Continued from Page 1.

National events. Many of our advertisers receive their monthly newsletters hand-delivered by one of your Board Members. Anyone who wouldn't mind putting in a few extra hours a month to help in this way would be greatly appreciated and essential to our organization!

Things are going well in the education department, thanks to Bob Miller, Linda Newland, and Chelcie Liu. The "Weather" Class has a few more sessions to go, and all of us in the course (including me) have appreciated Linda and Chelcie teaching our informative sessions. Bob just completed the "Seamanship" course at the NW School of Wooden Boatbuilding (located in Port Hadlock), and the "Piloting" course will begin the first week of January. It is not too late to enroll, so give Bob a call if you are interested in learning how to pilot your boat and plot your course. In the spring, "Advanced Piloting" will be offered. It is usually best to take Seamanship first, and then P before AP, but that is not set in stone. Bob's contact is 385-9585 or rmiller43@gmail.com; just give him a call to sign up or ask any questions.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at our Tuesday, January 18th meeting. The format will be our usual yummy potluck at 6 p.m. with our program at 7:15. Please bring your invited friends and guests as everyone will be excited to hear about Bob and Molly Miller's canal trip on the Rivers of France. Stay healthy and don't forget to check those boat lines on these windy winter days!

Commander Natalie
ptwilson.squadron@gmail.com



2011 Upcoming Events

- Jan. 10 Executive Board Mtg., 7 pm Skookum
- Jan. 18 General Meeting/Annual Election & Potluck, 6 pm, PTYC
- Feb. 7 Executive Board Mtg., 7pm Skookum (current & incoming officers)
- Feb.12 District 16 Spring Council at Friday Harbor, San Juan Islands
- Feb.15 "Change of Watch" Dinner & Installation of Officers; Annual Awards Presentations, 6 pm, PTYC
- Mar. 7 Executive Board Mtg., 7 pm Skookum
- Mar. 15 General Meeting & Potluck, 6 pm, PTYC
- Mar. 25 - 26 District 16 Spring Conference, Kitsap Conference

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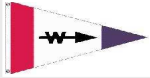


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Closing date for articles
25th day of each month

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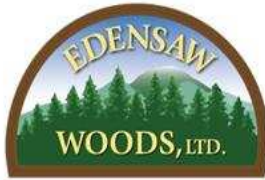
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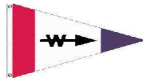
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**Point Wilson Sail and Power Squadron
December 7, 2010 Minutes General Membership Meeting
& Christmas Dinner
Port Townsend Yacht Club**

Members and guests gathered at 6:00 p.m. to enjoy our potluck Christmas dinner and celebration. Guests in attendance were Ron and Kathy Ryan, Brian and Linda Knox, & Brenda and Matt Mark.

Business meeting

Commander Natalie Hutton called the business meeting to order. Natalie summarized her and Jim's recent extensive cross country trip. A few of the highlights included 4 calls to road service, 3 tows, and 11,700 miles of travel.

There are a total of eight new members of which 3 were in attendance, Megan and Matt Martz, and Dimitri Kuznetsov. They were inducted into the organization with the membership pledge being led by Commander Natalie Hutton. As is the custom of the Point Wilson Sail and Power Squadron, all members joined the new members in repeating the pledge themselves.

Natalie reported on the progress of the New Officer Nominating Committee consisting of Chelcie Liu, Jay Merrill and Marilyn Butz. Nominees for the new slate of Officers for 2011 so far are;

Bob Miller, Commander

Linda Newland, Executive officer

Bob Monica, Squadron Education Officer

Ron Hayes, Treasurer

Nominees for Administrative Officer and Secretary are still needed. The squadron Executive Committee has recently moved "new member" administrative duties to the Treasurer and responsibility for scheduling the monthly program presentations to the Executive Officer; thereby removing some of the Administrative Officer's workload and making the overall Officer workloads more balanced. We will also need a newsletter replacement for "retiring editor" Beth Ross who has served for three years.

Old Business

None

New Business

Chelcie Liu announced that West Marine had gotten a bit of a late start but that they were now set up to receive "Toys for Tots" for Christmas. Cindy Okinczyk also informed members and guests that anyone needing to receive toys for their children from the "Toys for Tots" program could have their name given to the DSHS Office located near the hospital.

Program

The program for the evening was our very own Point Townsend Sail and Power Squadron fund raising auction. To say that it provided an entertaining evening would be a gross understatement.

Amateur (they could make it professionally!) auctioneers Albert Foster and Bill Beezley made the evening! It was such a success both in terms of the fun members had and in the bottom line of \$964 raised that it seems a no-brainer that we've found our annual fundraising event and that we'll do it again in the future.

The auction consisted of two parts. The first part was a "Chinese Auction" where members who wanted to bid on an item put one or more tickets in the basket and then the winner was drawn and announced by the auctioneers. With some questionable logic such as . . . "supporting this activity will keep the schooner charter business in Port Townsend healthy, which in turn increases member's property values", the auctioneers successfully separated members from their tickets thereby making more money for the squadron! Unusually successful in winning at this style of auction were new members Megan and Matt Martz. Their success became so apparent that the declaration "Martzes are in. Better double your tickets in the basket if you want to win," became common, and indeed many of us did just that! One of the auctioneers had his wallet lifted by his "significant other" and proceeded to bid confidently with her new found wealth – the auctioneer seemed to cringe a lot as she upped the ante!

The second part of the auction were "experience" offerings such as "I'll cook breakfast for you (and cleanup afterwards), I'll help you with your needs to do electrical or carpentry or cleanup at your home, I'll teach you how to sail, to a 2 hour sail on the "Pleiades" in Port Townsend Bay, etc. The big money maker of the evening was an offer by Dan and Linda Newland (good sailors!) to teach you -- your boat or theirs -- how to navigate on the water.

A grand time was had by all!
-Denny Newland, Secretary

Greetings from Your Squadron Education Officer

By: Linda Newland, AP



For a New Year's Resolution suggestion, consider expanding your knowledge of boating and related skills that you can pick up through taking USPS classes and acquiring your Boat Operator's Certificate. This new USPS program certifies members at various levels of recreational boating proficiency. It was designed to meet the proficiency standards that the US Coast Guard has asked the national Transportation Secretary to establish for recreational boaters. The intent is to have the new USPS certification accepted as the national certificate for the USA. Under an international resolution, boaters holding this certificate would then be able to get an international certificate much like licensed drivers getting an international driver's license. This would serve as proof of expertise for bareboat chartering and for boat operators doing international cruising.

To date there are 4 proficiency levels: Inland Navigator, Coastal Navigator, Advanced Coastal Navigator and Offshore Navigator. To meet each level, a member must complete a certain required list of courses, seminars and On-the-Water skills demonstrations. Many of our members have already met many of the classroom requirements by completing a safe boating course, Seamanship, Piloting and Advanced Piloting.

Congratulations to our own Bob Monica who recently acquired his Inland Navigator evaluator's certificate, so now Bob has his proficiency rating but also can sign off our squadron members who want to get their proficiency rating as an Inland Navigator. Bob can act as a mentor on-board your boat in teaching boat handling skills or simply sign off on your ability to demonstrate specific boat handling skills to him. Bob is already working on getting his evaluator's certificate for the next level, Coastal Navigator. Bob will serve as a valuable resource for those of you moving ahead in this certification process.

Please contact me for further information on the required courses and check www.usps.org for further updates on the Boat Operator's Certificate.

Continued on Page 9.



Above: Dan Newland tests out his hand-crafted vessel-- it floats!

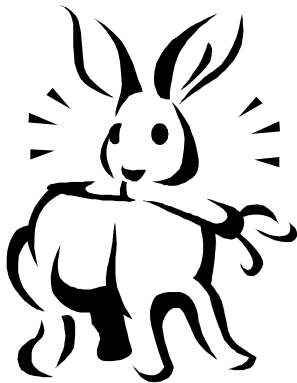
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2011

THE YEAR OF THE RABBIT

According to the Chinese Zodiac the Year of 2011 is the **Year of the Rabbit**, which begins on February 3, 2011 and ends on January 22, 2012. The Rabbit is the fourth sign of the Chinese Zodiac, which consists of 12 animals signs. The Rabbit is a lucky sign. Rabbits are private individuals and a bit introverted. People born in the **Year of the Rabbit** are reasonably friendly individuals who enjoy the company of a group of good friends. They are good teachers, counselors and communicators, but also need their own space.

According to Chinese tradition, the **Rabbit** brings a year in which you can catch your breath and calm your nerves. It is a time for negotiation. Don't try to force issues, because if you do you will ultimately fail. To gain the greatest benefits from this time, focus on home, family, security, diplomacy, and your relationships with women and children. Make it a goal to create a safe, peaceful lifestyle, so you will be able to calmly deal with any problem that may arise.

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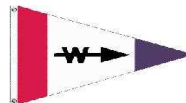
NEW MEMBER WELCOME!

We welcome aboard the following new members who have joined since October 2010. We look forward to spending time with all of you at the upcoming meetings and events. Members, please let our newest “crew members” know we are excited to have them as part of Point Wilson Sail & Power Squadron!

John Airingron
Ronald Bryant
Gary Dansenburg
Kathy Grace

Peter Guerrero
Dimitri Kuznetsov
Matt Martz
Megan Martz

Erik Preston
Sue Thomas
Linda Tolf
William Tolf



SQUADRON HELP NEEDED!

Two job openings exist for our new officer slate: Administrative Officer & Newsletter Editor

The AO position is an elected position so we need a name before the January 18 election! The Editor is needed to take over for Beth Ross who has served for three years – many thanks to her for a great job! The new editor will be responsible beginning with the March 2011 issue.

Please contact Commander Natalie Hutton right away (385-3118 or ptwilson.squadron@gmail.com) so these important duties can be filled. Either position could even be filled by a new(er) member – just a desire to serve is all we need. Former officers will “teach you how”.

Thanks!!

Educational Awards Received

Congratulations to the following members for achieving the status of **Educational Proficiency**. This recognition is granted when a member has achieved the grade of Advanced Piloting (AP) and has also taken and passed three advanced elective courses. **Those who received certification from National were Albert Foster, Jim Hutton, and Natalie Hutton.** Another award, the Educational Achievement Award, is granted when a member has reached the grade of Navigation (N) and has taken all advanced elective courses that Power Squadron offers. This is known as a “full certificate” because that member has received a completion “sticker” for all courses on the membership certificate. Set a goal, continue to take classes, and you, too, could receive this recognition!



Squadron Members' Sharp Eyes Result in a Rescue!

Submitted By MaryAnn Merrill

On Thursday December 30th Jay and I were walking the bunkers at Fort Worden when we arrived at a lookout point just west of the Point Wilson Lighthouse and paused to look out over the water. Jay observed something shiny white in the water, it appeared to be a possible kayak. We called 911, gave them the location and help was on the way. We stayed on the phone until our own Fire/Rescue boat zipped in to rescue the man. It took approximately 30-35 minutes for all of this to occur. While waiting for rescue to arrive, we could definitely identify it as a white kayak with a red top and someone hanging onto it. He did manage to right his kayak 4 times but was unable to get back in, which was a bit heart stopping for us watching, especially when he stopped trying after the 4th try and it rolled over again. 30 minutes can seem like hours.

Fortunately we later were able to contact Bill Beezley at the Fort Worden dock who told us the man was suffering from Hypothermia but was expected to be o.k. We also learned from Bill that the kayaker was fortunately wearing a dry suit, but 35 minutes in that water as we all are aware, is pushing the envelope. Later that evening the man called us from the hospital and thanked us for calling right away. Turns out he is local, kayaks all the time, was aware of the rips in the area but before he realized, the current swept him into the rip and when he attempted to head back to shore he dumped.

The moral of the this happy ending story is make that call even if you are not sure what you are looking at, we were very happy we did. Also we always take our cell phone, but from now on we will include a pair of binoculars.

Greetings from the SEO - Continued from Page 4

Our squadron Weather class is moving right along with lots of winter weather around here serving as prime examples of what we are studying about in class. Bob Miller is beginning a new Piloting class on Wed., January 5. Call Bob if interested at 385-9585. To date, 10 students are expected to attend. Classes are being held at the School of Wooden Boat Building in Port Hadlock.

Some may remember Dan's presentation about the building of the rowboat where many members joined in on the layup. On its first anniversary of being popped out of the mold, Dan took it for a spin (make that a "row") in Boathaven on January 2nd. It performed admirably and needs only a slight adjustment in the oarlocks. Next up, Dan will use its new sail and try it as a sailing dinghy.

See you at a meeting or signing up for a class. Stay tuned for a seminar on VHF radio and digital selective calling coming in March.

Linda Newland
Squadron Education Officer