

District 16

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Cardinal Points

Spring 2023 Quarterly Newsletter



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Please
remember your
Life Jackets !



Please send all
correspondence to:
Alayne Fellows
Cardinal Points Editor at
alaynef@gmail.com

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than .doc, .docx, .jpg, or .gif may not be
published.*



D/C Kenneth Smith, AP
Commander
uspsd16.dc@gmail.com

This will be my last Cardinal Points article to you after two years as your District Commander. It has been a very interesting and enjoyable time but now it is time to move on. That is move on, not away! I will still be around assisting the new bridge bring value to D16 squadrons and its members. As a relatively new Pacific Northwest transplant, the support shown to me by everyone made my time on the bridge very enjoyable; memories I will always cherish.

I am so glad we have finally emerged from the Covid cloud, as exhibited by our first real in person District Change of Watch on March 11th and all the fully-in-person squadron COW events being planned; led off by Bellingham on 2 March. Way to go everyone! With the Winter cold fading, this should be a great year for boating events and other outdoor activities.

Again, I wish to thank everyone who has supported me these past two years and I know you will continue supporting the next bridge. You have all done so much! I only wish I could have done more for you.

Now a little bit of seriousness.

There is a bit of a myth within USPS that goes something like this – “choosing to help out at the district level takes away from my squadron.” This is usually the response given when members of the District Nominating Committee reach out to past squadron officers, in all positions, asking if they would consider serving in a

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

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

district position . But is this truly the case or possibly just a myth, as I alluded to above? It's true that any amount of time spent away from squadron activity is time not allotted to the squadron. But squadrons do not live in a solo universe; each is part of a multi-squadron district and also part of the National organization. The districts' job is to bring squadrons together in social, boating, and educational ways while acting as a district's resource of experience and knowledge. A member who participates in a district position may actually, significantly help strengthen their own squadron, not weaken it; by increasing cross squadron communication and educational opportunities. For proof, just look back at the last three years of monthly Zoom meetings our DEO Jim West held, where our squadrons shared and coordinated educational offerings and kept updated on the latest national programs and offerings. The positive results are undeniable. This one Everett member has not only made Everett stronger but all of our D16 squadrons educationally better. Myth Busted!

Every year D16 holds a large boating rendezvous in Poulsbo with docktail parties, a flare shoot and extinguisher demonstration, and dinner gathering along with other events. This is in addition to the week plus long End of Season Cruise Adventures held the last two years. These events, open to all, require planning and effort; they do not just happen. They are put together by squadron members with a desire to improve their squadron members experiences but also improving all D16 squadrons members experiences. One must ask - "are we stronger or weaker because of these efforts?" I say stronger!

Currently our beautiful, wonderful, "necessary" District 16 is in very serious trouble. Trouble that can no longer be ignored. Trouble due to a lack of members, especially younger members stepping forward to take the various district positions that keep the above beneficial programs and relationships going. The reasons given are typically those stated in the preceding paragraphs. Please take a moment to look at the Nominations Committees report, just released by email, and note the names listed. Better yet, look at all the names not listed, and all the positions not filled. DEO Jim West is doing an unprecedented fourth year. P/D/C Annette Ferguson is stepping back into the D/C chair with no one behind her; no DEXO and no DAO. P/D/C Barbara Erickson is filling a stopgap DSEC position for the fourth year. Keep going; look for names on Nominating, Planning, Rules committees' etcetera. All of these dedicated members also hold squadron positions, yet find time to help. Our district can't continue surviving on the backs of these few dedicated members; it is just not fair to keep asking! We can also not survive with all those unfilled positions.

The title of this piece is - "To not choose is to choose." To not choose a district position is to choose the end of the district; it is inevitable. To not choose a district position is to choose to lose the educational and social support and coordination offered by the district. To not choose a district position is to choose to lose something that cannot ever be brought back - your district. And to not choose a district position is to choose to possibly lose your squadron and yes, even America's Boating Club. Finally, to not choose a district position is to choose to believe the myth that separately we are stronger versus - **Together We are Stronger!**

In closing, I ask two things of every D16 member. First, please reflect on what I have written and the reality of our future. Second, always stay engaged, give of yourself what you can and take what you need to feel energized and enthusiastic about what it means to be a member of the United States Power Squadrons, your District and your Squadron. Also, as I have said many times: "Go out there, get wet and show everyone who is not a member of USPS what they are missing".

Goodbye and Thank You. D/C Ken Smith



Executive Officer

Annette Ferguson

uspsd16.dxo@gmail.com

BEND AND STRETCH

REACH FOR THE SKY*

Before anyone thinks I am writing about a yoga position or taking you down memory lane to the Romper Room television program, stick with me for a few minutes.

As this edition of the Cardinal Points comes to you the membership, some of our members are at the Annual Meeting of USPS, America's Boating Club and many squadrons/clubs are preparing for their Change of Watch. In the past, this time had a feeling of anticipation and maybe excitement as to what the next year was going to look like. This year feels different. It feels like a year of slight hopefulness along with uncertainty. These two feelings have created a sense of tension within me and I believe in all of our squadrons/clubs. (Please note for ease of reading, I will use only "squadrons" when referring to both "squadrons and clubs".)

Tension is defined by Websters as "two balancing forces that cause the act of stretching as well as maintaining the integrity of a system". Today, each member is faced with the tension of making a commitment to their squadron to support its very existence and hopeful growth, or disengage by not renewing and disappearing "into the sunset". It is understandable that circumstances beyond our control can push us to make decisions that limit or stop participation in our squadron. However, for those who are displeased with your squadron, district or national, I would urge you to look beyond your displeasure, look at the benefits the organization has brought to you and look to see where you can make it better. Helping an organization improve does not mean being an officer, although stepping into a leadership role can be fun. Helping can include assisting, with or teaching a class, helping organize a squadron event, write an article for your newsletter, serve on a committee or drive a member to a meeting or event. Every person within our district has a talent and can offer something to their squadron.

The next year is beginning with a feeling of tension and the need for each of us to stretch to our fullest capability. If we stretch, the squadrons along with our district will be healthier and more resilient. Are you willing to "bend and stretch, reach for the sky"?

*Bend and Stretch – Sydney Session Singers, Romper Room

Cardinal Points Instructions for each quarterly newsletter articles

1. Please have your articles to me by the 15th 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 or your officer title.
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



Alayne Fellows

Cardinal Points Editor





D/Lt/C JAMES WEST, JR
EDUCATION OFFICER
uspsd16.deo@gmail.com

Greetings USPS District 16, America's Boating Club of Washington, Idaho, and Alaska™

"Boating is Fun, We'll Show You How"

Greetings, fellow members of District 16. I hope you all had a wonderful Holiday Season, with friends and family around. We didn't exactly see a White Christmas, but the spirit was there. Now it is the middle of February (the longest month of the year, I don't care what the calendar says). The sun is setting after 5:00 pm and little by little we are starting to see slices of blue sky appear. It is getting a little warmer, at least during the day. So let's start looking forward to a new boating season.

If any of you attended the Seattle Boat Show at the Events Center, you saw the crowds, and the new boats that are coming off the line. I didn't get down to Chandler's Cove this year, so I didn't get a chance to see the larger vessels that are offered, but the smaller, more affordable boats, the family friendly ski boats, fishing boats, and smaller cruisers, are definitely going to be out on the water. And the folks that are looking at and buying those kinds of boats are the demographic that we need to reach to keep USPS alive, viable and teaching. So I am asking all of you: Please get involved. If you know someone who is looking at getting into boating, put on your Squadron Shirt, and talk to them. Let them know what we can do for them to get them started on the water. Local Squadrons are genning up new classes, and we are doing them in person. For those who need them, we are also working with Hybrid sessions to get our classes out to people who may need to attend distance learning for whatever reason.

ABC Classes are of course the place to start, but don't forget that our advanced classes are necessary for new boaters. Check with your SEO and see what classes your squadron may be offering. And remember for yourself that you can never have enough education when it comes to boating. Even if you took the basic Seamanship class 20 years ago, you might want to check out the Boat Handling Under Power class. The basic knowledge may not have changed, but the technology has been improved and navigation has changed. And knowing what is current can help you talk to others about what USPS can offer your friends and others. Remember you are the best ambassadors we have to the rest of the boating community.

Speaking of ambassadors, we are still looking for instructors to teach our classes, and seminars. If you have the knowledge of boating, you have the skills to teach it to others. Trust me on this. And I promise you will learn too. I have been teaching ABC for more than 15 years, and I still learn something from each new class.

The District 16 Spring Conference and Change of Watch will be held on Saturday March 11, and it will be a hybrid event. If you are able to attend in person, please see the Cardinal Points newsletter for details. For those of you who will attend via ZOOM, look for an E-Mail with the ZOOM invitation early in March.

I hope to see you this spring and summer, either on the water or at one of our events. Have a great Spring, stay safe, and remember:

"Boating is Fun, We'll Show You How"





D/Lt/C Barbara Erickson, JN

SECRETARY

uspsd16.dsec@gmail.com

**USPS Annual Meeting
February 19 – 26, 2023
Orlando, Florida**

Many of us are traveling to the USPS Annual Meeting – February 19 – 26. It is an arduous trip if you cannot book a non-stop flight. Orlando during President's Day was difficult for us to get a non-stop flight, so we are taking the red-eye on Sunday early morning – a stop at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago – then onto Orlando.

I'm looking forward to this trip. Mostly to see our friends from across the USPS spectrum, but also because there are a lot of great workshops/seminars being presented. This issue of Cardinal Points will reach your email mailboxes while the conference is still happening. So this will not be a complete recap of the Conference, but I can at least give you a picture of what will happen.

Sunday and Monday are basically work days for me, while Tuesday I am attending the National Social Activities Committee's how to put together a charcuterie board. At the Fall Governing Board meeting, I purchased a cutting board in the shape of the United States (with America's Boating Club engraved in the middle) that I thought I would use on The Boat. It hasn't quite made it out of the box yet, but maybe after this conference, I will have learned how to create a charcuterie board using my ABC board!

Wednesday Steve and I are going to be in a putt-putt tournament. Yep, going to Orlando to putt-putt! It is a short ride on the I-Ride Trolley, which will be our main mode of transportation. Hopefully we will do well enough that we might win a prize! And it will be great to get outside before the conference really begins on Thursday.

Thursday is a full day... of eating.

- The Keynote Breakfast with Tim Barrett, Division Chief of Training for the Sanibel Fire and Rescue starts the morning off. This will be a presentation about Hurricane Ian and emergency preparedness.
- Lunch is a program by USPS member Dawn of Dawn's Travel Desk. She arranges cruises for the members and this particular luncheon will focus on travel myths vs facts and give details about the 2024 USPS Cruise to the Eastern Caribbean. We always have a great time with Dawn!
- Dinner will be with the Life Member and Awards Dinner. We will be wearing our blues and grays to this event to honor all the new Life Members! Life members are those individuals who have earned 25 Merit Marks. Those receiving recognition for 25 years from D16 are:
 - ◇ Our own Jim and Debbie Harden, Tacoma (with Jim onsite)
 - ◇ Mitch Carrol, Tacoma

This day is also reserved for committee meetings. Our District Commander Ken Smith and District Executive Officer Annette Ferguson will be attending the D/C & DXO meeting; Jim Harden will be attending finance meeting; I will be at the National Meetings Committee meeting and Steve would be roving the hallways taking photographs...

Friday is another busy day... There are some great seminars being offered. I've listed a few and hopefully those of us from the district can attend and take notes.



Dave McBride

Treasurer

davmcb@comcast.net



TODAY IS ALSO HISTORY

Because your squadron history is very important, being the historian can be educational, satisfying and fun. Being the historian of your squadron, seek out a committee of one or two additional members who will have an opportunity to meet and talk with other squadron officers and members to learn the workings and history of your squadron. Many new squadron historians simply don't know where to begin. They are handed boxes of old records and left on their own. Sometimes the boxes are full of treasures, pictures, certificates, newsletters, correspondence, etc. But what should the historian do with these records. All the National Historian Committee requests from each squadron is that a completed Form H-701 be filed at USPS Headquarters each year. This form is only a back-up in the event a squadron's records are lost. Certainly, you want your squadron history to be much more complete than is required by this form. When you go through those old boxes, think twice before throwing items away. Be selective and look to the future! Collect all your newsletters in archival quality plastic sheet protectors and place them in loose-leaf binders for easy access. The wealth of information in these publications will prove very helpful in writing a squadron history. Organize your records so you can eventually write an interesting history of your squadron—one your members can enjoy. History is fascinating and you will be surprised at the wonderful feeling you get when you discover something exciting about your squadron that no one else knows HAVE FUN!!

Originally written by P/R/C Alice M. Ringger, AP

Updated by D/Lt/C Dave McBride, AP

America's Boating Club – District 16

NOMINEES FOR ELECTED POSITIONS 2023 - 2024

In accordance with Section 2.9.1 of the District 16 By-Laws, the Nomination Committee Files this annual report setting forth the Nominees for elective office for the 2023-2024 Bridge year.

Executive Board Positions

Commander	Annette Ferguson, Everett
Executive Officer	Open to Nomination
Education Officer	Jim West, Everett
Administrative Officer	Open to Nomination
Secretary	Barb Erickson, Bellevue
Treasurer	David McBride, Bremerton
Asst. Education Officer	Open to Nomination

Elected Committees

Nominating Committee

Mark Richey, Skagit Bay - 1 yr

Open to Nomination - 1 yr

Open to Nomination - 2 yr

Open to Nomination - 2 yr

Open to Nomination - 3 yr

Open to Nomination - 3 yr

Auditing Committee

Jim Harden, Tacoma - 1 yr

Gary Baker, Everett - 2 yr

Open to Nomination - 3 yr

Rules Committee (committee to meet as needed)

Open to Nomination - 1 yr

Lance Jensen, Bellevue - 2 yr

Open to Nomination - 3 yr

All candidates have indicated their willing ness to serve if elected, in the position nominated.

As submitted by the 2022/23 Nomination Committee:

P/D/C Craig Brown, Poverty Bay

P/D/C Mark Richey, Skagit Bay



REGISTRATION FORM

Spring Conference & Change of Watch

11 March 2023, Port of Everett Marina

1205 Craftsman Way #200, Blue Heron Room B, Everett, WA
OR attend via Zoom. A link will be sent out closer to the meeting.

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ Spouse/Guest Name: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Squadron: _____ District: _____

Please Note: This is an activity registration form. There is no charge for attending the Conference Meeting.
Please return the registration form, even if no meals are purchased; guarantees car information is given to the Port of Everett.

Registration is open from 0800—0845 [Coffee and light pastries will be available]

Conference begins at 0900—12:00

Lunch from 1200—1330

Conference resumes 1330—1630

EARLY BIRD PRICES APPLY FOR LUNCH POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN MARCH 3, 2023

	<u>Early Bird</u>	<u>After March 3</u>
Lunches*	\$22.00	\$25.00

Please indicate number of meals:

Ham and Swiss _____	Fully Loaded Sub _____	Honey Mustard Chicken Club _____	\$ _____
Wraps: Turkey Chipotle _____	Caesar Chicken _____		\$ _____
Salads: Oriental Chicken _____	Classic Cobb _____		\$ _____

*All box lunches and wraps include an entree, chips, and cookie.

Salads have a roll instead of chips.

Bottled water, coffee and sodas will be available.

Total (USD) \$ _____

MOORAGE FOR BOATS

Available at Guest Dock 5 (across the street from the Marina). Please contact the Marina Office at 425.259.6001 to reserve your slip or register at <https://dockwa.com> specify *Port of Everett*.

Hotels of various prices are within 2.1 miles of the Marina. Two are on the Port property: **Hotel Indigo** and the **Inn at Port Gardner**.

Parking Policy

VEHICLE PARKING POLICY

Special arrangements are made for parking with the Port of Everett. Register your vehicle below:

Make _____ **Model:** _____ **License Plate Number** _____

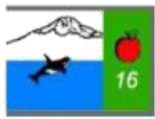
Payment and Conference Reservations & Questions

Make checks payable to: **D/16 USPS**

Mail form and payment to: **Cathy Rich**

15323 169th Drive SE, Monroe, WA 98272

If you have any questions, please contact: Annette Ferguson, 206.818.1560 or newfy03@gmail.com



SAVE THE DATE
FOR THE ANNUAL
D16 Rendezvous at Port of Poulsbo: June 8-11, 2023

Travel to the Rendezvous by Boat, Car or RV

Friday, 6/9:

Flare Shoot Training/Practice: Afternoon Tides look favorable. Learn/practice using actual flares.

Friday Night Social: "Dock Party" from 5:00-7:30PM on "E Dock." Members/guest set up tables & chairs (and tents/covers depending on weather) at the end of "E Dock." Bring your favorite hors d'oeuvres & BYOB to share with fellow district members and guests.

Saturday, 6/10:

Saturday Coffee & Pastries: 9:30AM at the Poulsbo Marina's "party barge" (free for registered rendezvous participants).

Flare Shoot Training/Practice: will be held on Friday because of Tides.

Co-Op Chart (Geodetic & Navigational) Practice/Training: Morning (weather permitting).

Fire Extinguisher Training/Practice: Early afternoon. Learn/practice putting out real fires.

Man Overboard recovery: Afternoon. Practice heaving line throw and recovering from the water "Oscar" (the same weight & size of a person).

Saturday Evening Dinner:

Join us for a catered Picnic themed dinner (approx. \$25/plate) on Saturday evening at the **Poulsbo Yacht Club**. (**BYOB**). Walk, Drive or Dinghy to enjoy the events. **The Poulsbo Yacht Club is .6 miles (6 tenths of a mile) from the Marina.**

MOORAGE AND LODGING

Moorage Reservations: E-Dock has been reserved for those planning to attend by boat. Moorage fees of \$1.50 per foot (30' minimum) to be paid directly to Poulsbo Marina (upon arrival). In addition, a \$10.00 reservation fee will be collected by D16 at the time of registration. Information regarding your boat size and specific moorage requests will be collected on the Registration Form which will be sent out to all members soon.

Lodging: A block of rooms has been reserved at the *Poulsbo Inn* under the name "District 16" at a group rate of \$124.60/night plus tax (for 6/9 and 6/10).

GROUP BLOCK RATE CLOSES JUNE 1, 2023.

Please make your hotel reservations early and directly with the hotel at 360-779-3921.

Watch for the Reservation Form and sign up for the fun!

The registration form with more information will be sent to all members. For Questions Contact: David McBride, D16 Treasurer at: davmcb@comcast.net.



United States Coast Guard
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

U.S. Coast Guard 5th District Mid-Atlantic
Contact: 5th District Public Affairs
Office: (757) 398-6272
After Hours: (757) 434-7712
[5th District online newsroom](#)

27 JAN 2023

FM: CHDIRAUX

TO: ALAUX

ALAUX 005/23

Subj: BOATING SAFETY APPLICATION FOR SMART PHONES

1. The Coast Guard Boating Safety application has allowed smart phone users on the Apple and Android mobile operating system platforms to input a profile, email a float plan, review safety equipment requirements, and obtain emergency assistance, as well as other features. Unfortunately, the application is no longer available in the application stores since updates have not been possible.

2. The Coast Guard is exploring the future of the application and hopes to put out additional information in the next 90 days. In the meantime, Auxiliarists should advise anyone who is interested in the application that it is not available, and users who have the application on their smart phones should be advised to delete it until further notice.

3. Questions should be directed to the Boating Safety Division (CG-BSX-2) at (202) 372-1062 or at rbsinfo@uscg.mil.

4. Internet release is authorized.

For many reasons including the value of keeping communication lines clear and open as well as facilitating access to training and educational tools, all Auxiliarists are urged to have their own email address and to keep it updated in AUXDATA II.

*All ALAUX's are posted on the Chief Director of Auxiliary web site located at: [CHDIRAUX ALAUX](#)

If you have a question regarding this ALAUX, please seek resolution within your Chain of Leadership and Management (COLM) including up to your servicing District Director of Auxiliary (DIRAUX). If your question still cannot be resolved after that, then please email CGAUX@uscg.mil.

 SHARE



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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.®

***DIRECTORY OF
DISTRICT BRIDGE OFFICERS***

COMMANDER (Friday Harbor)
Kenneth Smith, AP uspsd16.dc@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE OFFICER (Everett)
Annette Ferguson uspsd16.dxo@gmail.com

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
(open)

EDUCATION OFFICER (Everett)
James (Jim) West, SN uspsd16.deo@gmail.com

ASST EDUCATION OFFICER (Seattle)
Gail M. Kalbrener-Mazzeo ssaps.seo@gmail.com

SECRETARY (Bellevue)
Barbara Erickson, JN bje46@msn.com

TREASURER (Bremerton)
Dave McBride davmcb@comcast.net

D-16 WEBMASTER (Seattle)
Jim Haglund, P uspsd16.webmaster@gmail.com

DISTRICT PHOTOGRAPHER (Seattle)
Steve Erickson, JN steve-erickson@msn.com

CARDINAL POINTS EDITOR (North Olympic)
Alayne Fellows, P alaynef@gmail.com

***District 16 Calendar
2023***

February 2023

19-26 February USPS/ABC Annual Meeting
Orlando, FL

March 2023

11 March D/16 Spring Conference and
Change of Watch Everett, WA

May 2023

15 May Summer Cardinal Points deadline

June 2023

9-11 June D/16 Rendezvous Poulsbo, WA