



BELLVIEWS

Bellevue's Monthly Newsletter



May 2020

Vol. 58 No. 10

Since Covid-19 is providing us with new and different ways of being together, we have a creative way of recognizing our 2020 - 2021 Squadron Commander, Sally Stuart, SN.

Searching the Erickson photo archives, we found this photo of Cdr Sally with her flag. This is what you would have seen if we had an in-person Change of Watch.

We may not have the full pomp and circumstance that goes with our Change of Watch, but we do have the BSPS spirit supporting Sally and the Bridge through this unique time.



Photo from the 2008 Passing of the Flag Ceremony



BELLEVUE SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON BRIDGE UNITED STATES SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON - DISTRICT 16

Commander	Cdr Nick Ledbetter, JN	425 941-8552
Executive Officer	Lt/C Rick Vicik, P	425-653-1282
Admin Officer	Cdr Nick Ledbetter, JN	425 941-8552
Educational Officer	Lt/C Robert Cooper, P	206-612-6163
Treasurer	Lt/C Vern Redecker, JN	425 427-8058
Secretary	Lt/C Latural Redecker, AP	425 427-8058

BSPS: www.BellevuePowerSquadron.org D/16: www.uspsd16.org/

COMMANDER'S AIDES

Chaplain	Open
Flag Lieutenant	Open
Sunshine	Bobbi Jensen
MBYC Liaison	Willa Conrad, P
North Shore Liaison	Open
Merit Mark	Lt Jan Brintnall
Operations Training	P/R/C L.D. Brown, SN

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Executive Officer	Lt/C Rick Vicik, P
Safety Officer	Open
Coop Charting	Open
Liaison Office	Open
Social Activities	Willa Conrad, P
VSC Chair	P/C Dennis Dorratcague, SN

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT

Admin Officer	Cdr Nick Ledbetter, JN
Auction Chair	Open
Boating Activities	Lt Mike Heinrich, P
Dinner Reservations	Lt Jan Brintnall
Programs	Open
Advertising Mgr.	Open
Bellviews Editor	R/C Barbara Erickson, JN

Webmaster	Lt Frances E. Waters
Sqdn Photographers	Willa Conrad, P

Steve Erickson, JN

TREASURER DEPARTMENT

Treasurer	Lt/C Vern Redecker, JN
Budget Chair	P/C Pat Naselow, AP
Property Officer	Open
Ship's Store	Lt Diane Heinrich

SECRETARY DEPARTMENT

Secretary	Lt/C Latural Redecker, AP
Database	Lt Brad Waters, SN
	Lt Frances E. Waters

Historian Open

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Members at Large:

P/R/C L.D. Brown, SN
R/C Barbara Erickson, JN
Lt Michael Heinrich, P
P/C/C Lance J. Jensen, SN

AUDITING COMMITTEE

P/C/C Frank A. Dvorak, SN	1 year
Frank N. Young, Jr.	1 year

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Membership Chair P/C Dianne Greene, JN
Membership Involvement Chair R/C Barbara Erickson, JN

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

P/C Pat Naselow, AP	1 year
Open	2 year
Open	3 year

RULES COMMITTEE

Lt Michael Heinrich, P	1 year
Open	2 year
Open	3 year

Boat Operators Certification

BSPS Coordinator
1st/Lt David J. Greene, SN-IN-CN-ACN

Certifiers:
Inland, Coastal and Advanced Coastal

IN CN ACN

P/Lt/C David J. Greene, SN	•	•	•
P/C Dennis Dorratcague, SN	•	•	
P/Lt/C Dennis Kinch, AP	•		

Hands on Training (Small Boat & Large Boat)

Lt/C Robert Cooper, P
P/Lt/C David J. Greene, SN

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

SEO	Lt/C Robert Cooper, P
Assistant SEO	P/Lt/C David J. Greene, SN
Chairs Local Board of Boating	Lt Bruce Gardiner, JN

ABC Third Edition

Lecturers	Lt Bill Badgley, SN
	P/C Dennis Dorratcague, SN
	P/Lt/C David J. Greene, SN
	Lt Mark Galbraith, SN
	Lt David W. Mowrer, AP
	Cdr Nick Ledbetter, JN
	Lt/C Robert Cooper, P
	P/C Duncan Milloy, SN

ABC Third Edition All Day Classes

Lecturers	P/C Dennis Dorratcague, SN
	Lt Harry Johnson, AP
	P/Lt/C David J. Greene, SN
	Lt Mark Galbraith, SN
	Lt Bruce Gardiner, JN
	Cdr Nick Ledbetter, JN
	Lt/C Robert Cooper, P
	P/C Duncan Milloy, SN

Advanced Grades

Chair	Lt/C Robert Cooper, P
Seamanship	Lt/C Robert Cooper, P
Piloting	Lt Harry Johnson, AP
Advanced Piloting	Lt Harry Johnson, AP
Jr Navigation	P/Lt/C David J. Greene, SN
Navigation	P/Lt/C David J. Greene, SN

Elective Courses

Chair	Lt Brenda Galbraith, AP
Cruise Planning	Lt Eileen Huggins, SN
Engine Maintenance	Lt Carl C. Lang, AP
Instructor Development	Lt/C Robert Cooper, P
Marine Electrical Systems	Lt/C Robert Cooper, P
Marine Communications Systems	Lt/C Robert Cooper, P
Sail	Lt Mark Galbraith, SN
Skipper Saver	P/Lt/C David J. Greene, SN
Weather	Lt/C Vern Redecker, JN

Seminars

Chair	P/Lt/C David J. Greene, SN
Lecturers	P/Lt/C David J. Greene, SN
	Lt Harry Johnson, AP

Sight Reduction Checker

	P/Lt/C David J. Greene, SN
	Lt Mark Galbraith, SN

Equip. Custodian

Open



Chief Commander

C/C Mary Paige G. Abbott, SN-IN

Phone Number: 239.395.9409 Cell Number: 239.246.9687

mpgabbott@gmail.com

09 April 2020

MEMBERSHIP IS JOB ONE!

That phrase is the message delivered during the 2020 Annual Meeting, focus of the Chief's PowerPoint and Message for the District Spring Conferences and the topic of the opening article in the spring issue of The Ensign magazine. Now more than ever it is our responsibility as leaders to reach out and check in with our members.

I am asking all of you to telephone, not email or text, each member of your committee, each district officer who corresponds to your office, and each squadron officer. I ask that you check on their well-being and simply let them know how valuable they are to our organization. I guarantee you will learn a lot and your endorphin level will increase resulting in the "I need to do that more often" mantra.

The Board of Directors, Headquarters, and Department Heads have been at work on your behalf during the Safer-at-Home directives. Some highlights:

1. Executive Director Mary Catherine Berube received the approval from the BOD to complete and submit the application for the SBA Loan Paycheck Protection Program under the CARES Act. While there is no guarantee we will receive the benefits, it would have been remiss not to apply.
2. Headquarters remains closed per North Carolina and county directives. Please keep in mind the following:
 - a. The first reminder for June renewals, our biggest month, was emailed last week.
 - b. Headquarters staff is routinely retrieving mail from the post office. It is okay to use the street address, but the preferred mailing address is: United States Power Squadrons, PO Box 30423, Raleigh, NC 27622.
 - c. Headquarters is not receiving shipments from UPS or FedEx at this time. Please do not use these delivery services until you are notified that headquarters has reopened.
 - d. Please do not return educational material to Headquarters unless it is absolutely necessary. We may extend the material return policy to 120 days; we will keep you advised.
 - e. We are extending the examination expiration period by 60 days and will extend it for a longer period if it becomes necessary. Please do not return unused examinations. Keep the examinations for scheduling at a later date when the federal, state and local restrictions are relaxed.

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3. ITCOM made adjustments to the OD1 and OD2 forms to assist those Districts and Squadrons whose changes of watch were postponed or cancelled. Dan Bartell of ITCOM sent a notice on March 26 explaining the process. The notice is reprinted at the end of this Message.
4. It was requested that the message accompanying the June electronic renewal notices be revised to reflect the current conditions. Please be advised the request has been honored and future electronic mailings will feature it. We will keep all messages current, thoughtful and relevant for our members.
5. Here is an example of how our squadrons Connect with their communities. Fabulously generous!

 **American's Boating Club of Patchogue Bay - Power Squadron** ...

20 hrs

Sometimes something good can come out of the most disappointing events. We had to cancel this year's Founder's Day Dinner Dance due to COVID-19. But at our Change of Watch, our Education Officer Bob Bernstein proposed we use part of the funds to make a donation to Long Island Community Hospital in Patchogue NY. Our Executive Committee unanimously approved a \$500.00 donation. As it turns out, the hospital is receiving matching donations! So our gift will go even further! Please see attached our letter that went out today with our donation. Please support our local health care workers - they will be the difference between life and death for some folks. We all need to stand together in this time of crisis.

Here's to hoping I see everyone enjoying our waters and beaches this summer - better days are coming!

Cdr Michael Sawaya, P
 America's Boating Club
 Patchogue Bay Power Squadron

I wish you fair winds and calm seas as we weather these turbulent waters together.
 Please - Stay safe, smart, and healthy!

Mary Paige Abbott

Chief Commander

“Hope is important because it can make the present moment less difficult to bear. If we believe that tomorrow will be better, we can bear a hardship today.”

Thich Nhat Hanh

REPRINT OF ITCOM MESSAGE REGARDING OD1, OD2, and ED-80

This is Your Copy Subject: COVID-19 and COWs
Reply To: danb@usps.org>
Date: 3/26/2020, 6:48:54 PM
From: Dan Bartell

To Squadron and District Commanders

The COVID-19 virus which has shut down much of our country has impacted USPS during the period when many squadrons and districts would normally be holding their Change of Watch and beginning their 2020 Watch Year. It is unlikely that any actual COW events were held after the first week in March.

At the request of our Chief Commander the IT Committee has provided a path forward to prepare our systems for whenever those squadrons and districts actually change their job assignments. We hope this relieves you of the burden of having to submit OD and ED-80 forms when there are far more important concerns both personally and for our organization.

We are asking you at this time not to submit any OD-1/2 forms or ED-80 forms any earlier than April 1. Any submitted between now and April 1 will not be processed.

We took the following steps.

1. For squadrons and districts that had either a scheduled COW or whose COW anniversary from the previous year occurred before March 1 and whose Commander's watch year was still 2019, all 2019 jobs were changed to 2020 jobs. If the Commander's watch year was already 2020 no action was taken. Squadrons or districts may use the simple online tool described later to convert any existing 2019 to 2020 jobs.
2. For squadrons and districts who had a scheduled COW or whose COW anniversary occurred between 3/1/2020 and 3/23/2020, if the Commander had a watch year of 2019, all 2019 jobs were changed to 2020 jobs. You may wish to use the tool described below to make sure the results are correct.
3. For squadrons and districts who had a scheduled COW or whose COW anniversary from the previous year occurred after March 25, your 2020 COW date was set to 4/1/2020 and your current 2019 jobs were changed to 2020 jobs. All information entered through the OD and ED forms were saved, and when you hold your COW and/or install new officers and committee chairs you may use the tool described below to activate those jobs.

After 4/1 you may submit OD or ED forms again but they should be for your current watch year which in all cases will be 2020.

The tool mentioned may be accessed as <https://www.usps.org/cgi-bin/nat/org/cjmgt.cgi>. It may also be located by going to the information center <https://www.usps.org/info> where it can be found in the menu under 'Organization' as 'Current Job Management'.

The tool allows you to:

- Convert 2019 jobs into 2020 jobs
- Delete any jobs which are no longer staffed.
- For squadrons or districts who fall into category 3 above, it will allow you to activate your pending jobs whenever you desire.

It is not a substitute for submitting an OD-1 or OD-2.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns please contact me at danb@usps.org

From the Commander - Elect

Cdr Sally Stuart, SN

“I can’t change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination.”

Jimmy Dean

It was 14 years ago that I took the pledge to be Commander of Bellevue Sail and Power Squadron. It was an incredible experience that I will never forget. Members generously volunteered their time, wisdom, and skill to making my role enjoyable and to keep Bellevue Sail and Power Squadron a strong and vibrant organization. And that is why when I was asked to be Commander again for 2020-2021, I said yes. I look forward to working with the new Bridge: P/R/C Barbara Erickson, JN, Administrative Officer; P/C/C Lance Jensen, SN, Squadron Educational Officer; P/R/C L.D. Brown, SN, Assistant Educational Officer; Barbara Erickson, Treasurer; and Bobbi Jensen, Secretary.

“Things” are different this year due to Covid-19 and the “stay at home” order. Our dinner meetings, Change of Watch, and Rendezvous are cancelled. Classes are cancelled or offered remotely. For now, we are relying on technology for our activities. The Change of Watch and dinner meeting in May and the June dinner meeting are cancelled. The Salmon Bake scheduled in June is cancelled. Incoming and Outgoing Bridge members met virtually April 9th. The meeting and transition went well. We will keep you informed regarding the District 16 Rendezvous scheduled in June and the Maple Bay Rendezvous in August. Some virtual activities are being planned for the summer. Check the Bellviews and your email for notifications.

BSPS remains a strong and vibrant organization. Safe boating education remains our core strength and our future. BSPS has the essentials needed to adjust our sails and reach our destination. We have a clear vision and mission statement. We have the right people with the right skills who are technology savvy to meet the challenges of this change. We have leadership from within our squadron at the Squadron, District, and National level. We have skilled instructors to teach our public boating classes, advanced and elective courses and seminars. And most important of all we have an outstanding membership committed to promoting safe boating practices.

We are indebted to our leaders throughout 2019-2020: P/C Nick Ledbetter, JN, Commander; Lt/C Rick Vicik, P, Executive Officer; Lt/C Robert Cooper, P, and P/Lt/C Dave Greene, SN, Education Officers and Instructors; P/C Vern Redecker, JN, Treasurer; Lt/C Laurel Redecker, AP, Secretary; Aides and Department Members; Members-at-Large and Jesus – Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club’s super chef – who accommodated our dinner meeting needs and prepared our excellent meals.

In planning for our future, we must keep in mind our mission: To promote recreational boating safety through education and civic activities while providing fellowship for our members. BSPS’s continued success depends on you and your commitment to tackle new challenges, new opportunities and to build a bigger and stronger BSPS in 2020 and beyond. As members come together from different perspectives, we have the potential to bring dif-

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ferent thoughts and ideas to problem solving. The potential for positive creative synergy is immense.

So, let's adjust our sails and lead the way to an even stronger and more vital organization. We hope you are staying healthy during this uncertain time, take care of yourselves, and be mindful of your family and friends.



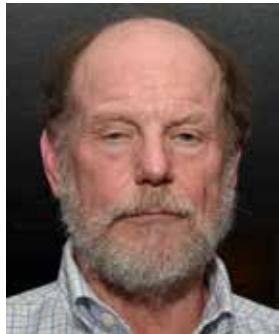
Sally's Escape While Homebound

Do you need an escape while you are sitting at home? Maybe a good adventure book that holds you captive for a while? Whether you are an armchair sailor or rough weather boater there are countless books for you to choose from. Here are some recommendations that I have read and enjoyed over the years.

- Have you ever wondered what it would be like to get away from it all, to sail as far North as possible? Dave and Jaja Martin with their three small children did just that. They spent 3 years cruising on their 33-foot sailboat into the northern most reaches of the globe in the late 1990s and early 2000. Their voyage takes them to the waters of Iceland, Norway, Spitsbergen, the Faeroe Islands, and Scotland. “Into the Light: A Families Epic Journey” chronicles their voyage, their growth as a family, and their philosophical development as well describes the places they traveled and people they met. This is a heart-warming book full of humor, adventure and discovery.
- Closer to home, “Passage to Juneau: A Sea and Its Meanings” by Jonathan Raban. Raban writes about his solo sailing voyage from Seattle to Juneau through the Inside Passage in his 35-foot sailboat. He writes about his preparations and his experience in sailing solo and accounts of his personal life and also his well-researched historical account of the travels of Captain George Vancouver aboard HMS Discovery during his four-year exploration of the northwest coast of North America.
- Or maybe you are interested in the weather, have you read “Isaac’s Storm: A Man, A Time, And the Deadliest Hurricane in History” by Erik Larson? Larsen describes the hurricane that hit Galveston in 1900. At that time, weather forecasting was more of an art than a scientific prediction. Politics and funding were involved so the word “hurricane” was forbidden to be used. Larson is an excellent writer and this book held me captive from beginning to end.

There are also many classics and favorites worth reading or rereading if you have already read them: “The Old Man and the Sea” by Ernest Hemingway; “The Boat Who Wouldn’t Float” by Farley Mowat; “The Curve of Time” by M. Wylye Blanchet; and “Endurance: Shackleton’s Incredible Voyage” by Alfred Lansing. There are literally thousands of books to choose from. So, pick up a book, settle down in a comfy chair, and start reading.





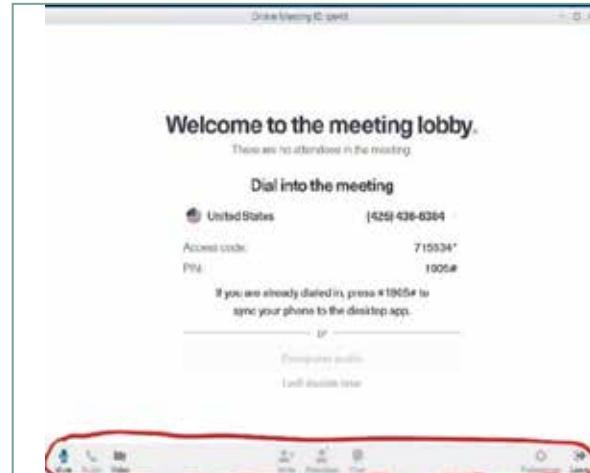
From the Executive Officer

Lt/C Rick Vicik, P

Video Conferencing

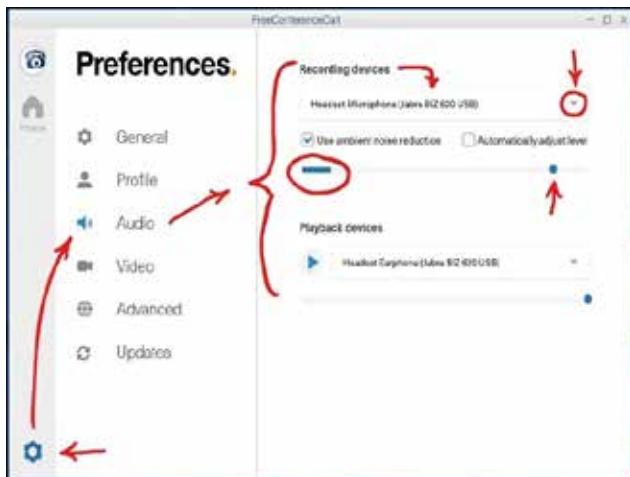
Due to my recent experience while attending BSPS board meetings via “video conferencing”, I decided to dig deeper into this stuff. Others may find useful what I’ve discovered. The product is FreeConfrenceCall, also known as “FCC”. There are many other products (GoToMeeting, BlueJeans, Zoom, etc.). FCC is recommended by USPS and allows up to 1000 participants for free with no time limit. For comparison, the free version of “Zoom” is limited to 100 participants and has a 40 minute limit (but no time limit if only 2 participants).

As a first-time user of FCC, I was confused when told by other participants to “click on the phone icon on the lower left”. My screen had no icons at all on the bottom (left image below). I joined the meeting by clicking on a link received via email. Because I had not previously installed the FCC “app”, I got the browser version which has the icons on the top. The app version has the icons on the bottom (right image below).



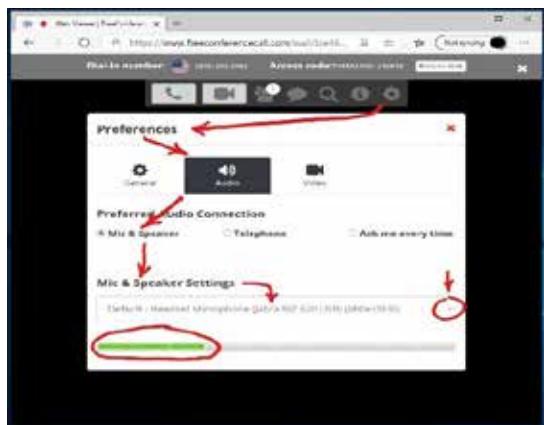
The ability to test one’s own audio before joining a conference is very useful. FCC provides a way to do that in the “preferences” section. The icon for “preferences” is a stylized gear. It is grayed-out which typically means “don’t bother clicking on this”, but in FCC that means “not currently selected”.

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If using the app version, on the initial “join” screen, click on the “preferences” icon in the lower left corner (you don’t need to be connected to an actual meeting). Then click on “audio” which brings up a screen with sections for “Recording Devices” and “Playback Devices”. Each of those sections has a box showing the device currently selected for audio input and output (not just for recording and playback as the labels imply). Clicking on the down arrow to the right of the box will show all devices of that type currently available to FCC on this computer. If the one you want to use is not listed, there is no point in joining the meeting until that is resolved. In each section, below the box is a slider bar which can be used to adjust volume but it also shows actual audio level with a blue bar that appears when there is sound.

The Playback section has a “play” button. Pressing that should produce “Welcome to the conferencing service” in your headphones/speakers. The blue audio level bar should activate accordingly. The input side is similar. If your microphone is working, the blue level bar in the input section should activate when you speak into it. If you cannot get these to work, more detailed troubleshooting is required before attempting to join a meeting.



The browser version is similar but the “preferences” icon is on the top right (also grayed out). Clicking on it brings up similar General/Audio/Video selections. The audio section can be used to test the microphone, but not audio output. The audio level bar is green, not blue. There are options to use “mike & speaker” or “telephone” or “ask every time”.

In both versions, “preferences” also has a video section. It will show the live video from your camera if it is working. The video section also has a drop-down list of available devices which allows changing from front camera to back camera, etc.



If the audio input and output devices are not shown in the drop-down lists, you must get those devices working before trying to use them with FCC. On Windows, the “Voice Recorder” can be used to test the basic functionality of audio input and output devices by recording your voice and then playing it back. If Voice Recorder does not see the audio input or output devices, it will be necessary to use the Control Panel to troubleshoot them. That is beyond the scope of this article.

Educational Department

SEO Robert Cooper, P and ASEO David Greene, SN

Happy Easter

All of us in the Ed Department hope everyone in the squadron was able to celebrate with family and friends via Zoom, WebEx, Skype, WhatsApp or our favorite FreeConferenceCall.com. While not nearly as satisfying as face to face celebrations they at least allow us a chance to interact while maintaining our compliance with the stay at home orders. The joy of the occasion and the beauty of the day was a welcome break from the depressing “hunker down” feelings we’ve been enduring. However it appears that our collective efforts are paying off. It looks like we have turned the corner on the most severe effects of this pandemic. We still know that we really need a much more coordinated and complete testing program before we return to offering our standard classes and seminars but it really does look like we just might be able to restart our education programs in a couple of months.

Boating Classes during the Pandemic

Well we currently have 4 classes that haven’t been completed since we’ve not been able to meet or complete final exams. These include Seamanship (taught by Robert Cooper) with 4 students, Marine Electrical Systems (taught by Robert Cooper) with 5 students, Navigation (taught by Dave Greene) with 3 students, and Engine Maintenance (taught by Carl Lang, AP) with 27 students. We’re working with the National Ed department on some creative ways to conduct the exams via freeconferencecall.com. More to come next month probably from our new SEO (P/C/C Lance Jensen, SN).

One of the first steps for the new Ed department will be to establish the new updated class and seminar schedule. We’ll let them address this in the next issue of the news letter.

A Fond Farewell – Stay Safe

Although I hesitate to publish yet another goodbye since my previous ones didn’t result as I had hoped and I’ve had to return to serve. I believe this will make eight years. I realize the old cliché that “it seems like only yesterday” is used often in these cases but it really doesn’t seem like yesterday for me. We’ve all been through quite a bit since 2012 and I look forward to turning over the reins to Lance Jensen as SEO and P/R/C L.D. Brown, SN, as ASEO. Both Dave Greene and I look forward to teaching our usual classes.

Odds and Ends

Dave Greene and I are still hoping to run an “On the Water” boat school this summer here in Kenmore. Of course this will be dependant on the pandemic conditions. We will never do anything that might compromise the health of either instructors or students. We’ll take P/C Nick Ledbetter’s, JN, boat on loan sometime in June if the National Institute of Health recommendations make it okay. 

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Educational Department - Elect

P/C/C Lance Jensen, SN

Here We Go Again!

I was an SEO for a three or so years, just about 40 years ago. L.D. Brown, my ASEO Elect was (I'm pretty sure) an SEO sometime near then and also a DEO sometime in the late 80s or early 90s. So, of course, we should know what the jobs entail. But things like computers and the Internet have come along since, so he and I are going to need a good deal of coaching. Thankfully, Robert Cooper and Dave Greene are going to pass along everything we need to know. Robert and Dave and all their instructors have done a great job keeping BSPS's education program contributing to local boating safety in recent years.

For now and for as long as personal distancing is necessary, our offerings will be limited to finishing up, as best we can, courses which have already begun and are close to exams. Unfortunately, USPS HQ is also closed so exam grading is delayed along with results. Here in Washington State, we have done a good job of flattening the curve, so I am hoping that some educational efforts, like On-the-water training, may be resumed later this summer and certainly we can plan on ABC, AG and Elective Courses being offered again starting in the fall.



REMINDER

Stay safe and conform to the recommendations to shelter in place.

Wear any relevant protective gear and wash your hands often.

Practice Physical Distancing and Social Connecting

Administrative Department - Elect

P/R/C Barbara Erickson, JN

These are challenging and different times, aren't they? If not for this pandemic, we would be anticipating the Change of Watch (COW) on Wednesday, 5 May. Here we would have thanked the 2019 – 2020 Bridge for their hard work this past year, and welcomed in the 2020 – 2021 Bridge as they began their term of office. But we don't get to do that. No real closure, no real Thank You's, just this disjointed feeling that change is happening. We are not alone in this awkward transition. District 16 had to cancel their COW, plans for the Poulsbo District Rendezvous are tenuous, transition for them is coming about too. Same with just about anything in our lives. But we will persevere. Bellevue's new bridge will begin their term on 5 May.

So now wearing my Bellviews Editor hat, I am introducing the new Editor, although not new to us, Laurie Stevens, AP. Laurie was the editor prior to my coming onboard and is looking forward to taking the helm back! She is also versed with Constant Contact, a great communication/marketing tool, that P/C Nick Ledbetter, JN, is hoping we adopt. So this is one change for the better! Sending my Thank You to everyone – P/C Mark Stevens, the best Proofreader in the World!, article contributors and most of all the readership – who have supported the Bellviews these past years! It has been a pleasure serving you!

What will I be doing? Phase Two begins. I will begin assuming two roles – as your Administrative Officer and as Treasurer. Normally one could perform the Secretary/Treasurer roles combined into one, but we are very fortunate to have Bobbi Jensen step up to be the Squadron Secretary. So welcome Bobbi when you see her...

With that said, I'll be working with P/C Vern Redecker, JN, to learn the responsibilities of the Treasurer. Vern stepped up to be our treasurer when there was a vacancy. He has done a wonderful job keeping our books, and Vern has been looking forward to serving in a different capacity.

I'll also be taking on the Administrative Officer role and working closely with the Bridge and our new Membership Chair, Nick Ledbetter, to promote the Bellevue Sail and Power Squadron. We thank P/C Dianne Greene, JN, for her willingness to serve as chair of this committee for more years than I can recall. A well-deserved rest from a job well done!

Lt Mike Heinrich, P, will continue on as Boating Activities Chair. Although COVID-19 is forcing us to take a break from rendezvous, most notably the Salmon Bake, this also provides us an opportunity to sit back and consider what you, the membership, would like to see happen. Plans for the Maple Bay Rendezvous are still marked as "a go" dependent on where we and our northern neighbors are in the July timeframe. Lt/C Rick Vicik, P, is the host for this and will keep us apprised.

Our squadron webmistress, Lt Fran Waters, will be staying on to watch over the care and feeding of our website! Thank you Fran.

Lt Willa Conrad, P, and Steve Erickson, JN, will remain as our squadron photographers – Thank You both for

your “photo album” of our events and activities.

So how will we proceed during these times without being face-to-face? Tentative plans are in the works to see how we can connect with you during these “distancing” times. Virtual connections are being discussed and thought out. Perhaps a virtual Tavern and Tidbits (without leaving your home) to share what’s going on over appetizers and drinks; sharing ideas on the Squadron’s FaceBook page on how to continue or refresh our knowledge about all things boating; sharing our own favorite boating stories – places, events, lessons learned; working together to promote safety on the water – National Safe Boating Week is a little more than a month away and time is passing by quickly.

All of these things sound wonderful, don’t they? They can be wonderful, if you, the membership join in. We are dependent on you to LEARN | ENGAGE | CONNECT to keep the vibrancy of this squadron going. Can we count on you?



Boaters, Near and Far

Lt Mike Heinrich, P

- The time is right to consider the idea of spending a few days on the water as long as we are okay with using our ship’s anchor to hold us until daybreak when we can proceed to the next cove or harbor. The weather has not only turned favorable, but the cost of fuel is mighty enticing – again to use now or to top off the tank or tanks as is the case with some.
- Conveniences such as a furnace are nice but, in some cases, a jacket will suffice; as long as we are surrounded by water, in our case, that would be salt, but some lakes may also provide peace and tranquility.
- Let us boat in a safe manner – keeping well more than the current six feet distance between us for humans.



Vessel Safety Checks



We have many Vessel Safety Examiners who are ready to meet you at your boat to make sure your vessel meets the current standard for safety.

Let's see if we can get 100% participation from all of you who currently own a boat. We don't want to see anyone with an outdated sticker.

Please contact any one of our VSC Examiners...
and get yours done today!

Bernie Conrad, 425-736-5039 or
email: bernieconrad40@gmail.com

Robert Cooper, 206-612-6163 or
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KARL'S KWIZ

P/Stf/C Karl Lang, SN

1. Under what US Government department does the Federal Reserve exist?
2. What is proprioception? (Hint: You could not drive a car without it.)
3. If the age of the Earth is represented by a 24 hour clock, how long has mankind (*Homo Sapiens*) been here?
 - a. Last half hour
 - b. Last ten minutes
 - c. About last 30 seconds
 - d. About last 3 seconds
 - e. None of the above
4. What was the first Conscription Act in American history?
 - a. The adoption of paper money by the first Continental Congress in 1776,
 - b. Creation of check writing system,
 - c. Dropping the gold standard and establishing Federal Reserve Notes in 1913,
 - d. WW I Military draft,
 - e. An act regulating radio transmissions and broadcasting stations,
 - f. None of the above.

Answers on page 25



BROWN AND DVORAK CRUISES

By P/R/C L. D. Brown, SN

Including Pictures and Advice from P/C/C Frank Dvorak, SN, & P/R/C Trudy Brown, AP

In early 2019 none of us had been to Africa even though we had tried several times. We found a Viking cruise that fit our needs and signed up for the cruise shown below.



Viking is our favorite cruise line and we have been on so many cruises with them we usually know several of the crew. Compared to many of the current cruise ships, Viking's six identical ships are relatively small. They accommodate 930 passengers who must be at least 18 years of age, they have no casino and the crew must speak English, have prior experience and training before being hired. Viking has been voted the best Cruise Line for the past few years.



Crew we have sailed with before who always seem to be glad to see us.



Two Head Waiters and a favorite Waitress with my Gin and Tonic.



Our cabin on Deck 5

We boarded the ship in Barcelona on November 14, 2019 and had time to tour the city. We spent several days in Barcelona in 2018 so we already knew it was the tourist jewel of Spain and Spain's answer to Paris. Today's Barcelona grew up around Barrino, one of the largest known Roman settlements in Europe.

We signed up for the city tour to see what, if anything, we might have missed the year before. No Barcelona tour would be complete without a stop at the Roman Catholic Basilica de la Sagrada Familia. Construction began March 19, 1882 with a Wikipedia completion forecast of 2026. Our 2018 tour guide's forecast was "sometime this century." Its completion relies solely on private donations. The inside is beautiful and has been in use for some time. The many towers seem to be the main items needed for completion.



Picture on November 14, 2019



Wikipedia's idea of the completed cathedral

In addition to Barcelona's wonderful restaurants and other charms, its Flamingo Dancers are a major attraction.



We attended in 2018 and had good seats but they would not let us use flash, so our pictures were not great.

The next day we headed for Grenada and Alhambra hoping the Dvorac's could stand in the area where Queen Isabella gave Columbus the ships and other requirements to sail to India (something we did during a USPS visit to Portugal and Spain in 1987.) But as Columbus failed to reach India, we also failed as the building was closed for renovation.

The following day we sailed for Casablanca which was probably the highlight of the trip. We had heard that someone had built a replica of Rick's Café (and nightclub) based on the scenes from the Movie Casablanca and we could hardly wait to see it.

Rick's Café Casablanca was developed by Kathy Kriger (1946–2018), a former American diplomat in Morocco who was also a fan of the movie. Rick's Café was part of a wonderful tour offered by Viking so we didn't have

time for lunch, so we concentrated on the bar.



I finally got my picture in the Bellviews



Front Entrance



Happy Bartender



Left. Frank seems happy too. Above. And so does everyone else.



Casablanca is also a good beer



The bar is on the second floor. Sam's Piano is on the first



I wanted to hear "As time goes by" so I asked a waiter where Sam was. He said Sam had died. ???? This was only disappointment.

We arrived at Dakar, Senegal at 8:00 am November 21 and went on a city tour. Senegal is a poor country. Our ship left at 4:30pm. It took three days to cross the Atlantic and the picture below shows how calm the ocean was for the entire crossing.



Dakar had some importance in WWII. It and Recife, Brazil, our next port of call, were major stops for many B17s being ferried to the European theater.

Recife, Brazil was very interesting but I have few pictures so I will skip on to Rio de Janeiro where we found rain, rain, rain.

The picture below is from Viking.



Frank and Vivian made it to the top.



Between showers the beaches were beautiful.

We sailed on and enjoyed some of the Viking's Chocolate Bar along the way.

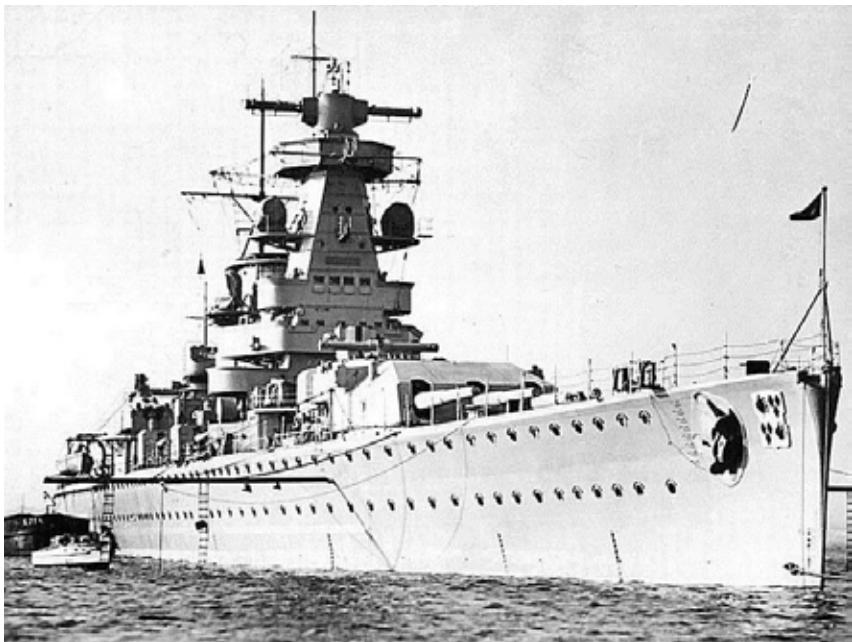


Uruguay is one of my favorite countries. It seems quite stable and Montevideo, its capital, is a beautiful city. The center of Montevideo is shown on the right below.



One of my favorite Uruguay stories is about the demise of the Graf Spee. It was about a WWII, German, Heavy Cruiser, nicknamed a “Pocket Battleship” by the British and commanded by Admiral Hans W. Langsdorff. In late 1939 the Graf Spee was in the South Atlantic area raising havoc with Allied shipping. After sinking nine ships, battling British and New Zealand naval ships, low on fuel, ammunition and with some battle damage, it limped into Montevideo. International law allowed them 72 hours in a neutral port.

The first thing Admiral Langsdorff did was unload the survivors they had picked up from sunken merchant ships and make arrangements for burial of the dead German sailors.



From "Battleship Admiral Graf Spee in WWII" article on the internet

After being tricked into believing the British had more ships waiting for him to leave the harbor than they really did and having little or no ammunition (per several unconfirmed sources) Admiral Langsdorff took the Graf Spee, with a skeleton crew, three miles out of the port and scuttled it on December 17, 1939. Admiral Langsdorff committed suicide the next day. The crew stayed in Uruguay during the war and many stayed after the war.



Gun salvaged from Admiral Graf Spee



Cemetery where the German sailors were buried



Stone recognizing Admiral Langsdorff



German sailors burial spot.

There were about 30 of them (I counted 29) and surprisingly their ages were in the late teens and early twenties.



We cruised to Buenos Aires the next day, toured the city and flew home on December 5, 2019. This concluded our cruising with Viking in 2017 which included six continents. I'll be glad when we can start cruising again.



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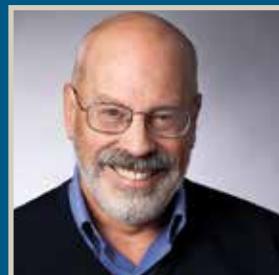
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KARL'S KWIZ ANSWERS



- the draft March 3, 1853.
- April 16, 1862 by the Confederacy during the Civil War. Later, the North enacted
4. f. None of the above. The first Conscription Act was a military draft enacted
- results in 2.88 seconds.
- that Homo Sapiens appeared about 150,000 years ago. On a 24 hour clock, that
3. d. About 3 seconds. Scientists say the Earth is about 4.5 billion years old and
- why a DUI suspect is asked to close his eyes and bring his finger to his nose.
- marvelous ability, no? The ability is diminished by alcohol consumption which is
2. The ability to know where your extremities are without looking at them----a re-
- rected by a 7 member Board of Governors.
- but an independent banking agency run like a commercial corporation. It is di-
1. None. (Does that concern you?) The Federal Reserve is not a government body





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13 *Using VHF & VHF/DSC Marine Radio Clinic*

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27 *Using AIS*

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