



# HISTORY of CBSPS



Cocoa Beach Power Squadron was chartered in District 23 of the United States Power Squadrons on 6 November 1967.

Prior to that time, Brevard County had two squadrons: Cape Canaveral Power Squadron (now Titusville Sail and Power Squadron) and Banana River Power Squadron (now Banana River Sail and Power Squadron). With the rapid growth of the space industry, the need for another squadron became apparent when, in 1966, Banana River had 210 residents enroll for a public boating course taught at the Cocoa Beach High School and an equal number enrolled in a class in Melbourne.

Responding to the demand for another squadron, the Central Brevard Division of the Banana River Squadron was formed in March 1967. Bridge officers were elected. The organizers came from the existing Brevard County squadrons and were primarily employed in the aerospace industry. By June the Bridge had decided to seek status as a separate squadron and chose the name Cocoa Beach Power Squadron. When the charter was issued in November, there were 54 members.

Since women could not belong to USPS until 1982, a women's auxiliary, The Coco-Nauts, was formally organized in 1968 with membership consisting of the wives of the squadron members.

The newsletter was first published in November 1976 under the name "The Pilot". The name was changed to "The Soundings" in December and continues to be published monthly and posted on the squadron website.



The burgee was designed by a member of the Coco-Nauts, Chris Hedman. Her depiction of a black dolphin on a white background carrying the C and B signal flags is in use today. A squadron burgee was aboard Apollo 13 and is on display at the Brevard Veteran's Memorial Center.

In 1982, the United States Power Squadrons accepted women as members and Cocoa Beach began to immediately accept women members.

The name was changed to the Cocoa Beach Sail and Power Squadron in 2008.

Now well into the 21st century, the squadron maintains its status as Central Brevard County's major source for boater education and boating safety services.