



# The Soundings

May 2003  
Volume XXXVI  
No. 5

MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE

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## Colonel Danny R. McKnight, U.S. Army, Retired will speak at 06 May Meeting

Squadron members will be privileged to have as our guest speaker, Colonel Danny McKnight. He was born in Columbus, Ga., moved to Rockledge, FL, in 1959 and attended FL schools. He was a Distinguished Military Graduate from Florida State University in 1973 where he earned a BS Degree in Management. In 1985 Danny earned his Masters Degree in Higher Education from the University of Florida while assigned as an Assistant Professor of Military Science in the ROTC Department. His military career also included combat duty on two occasions - Panama 1989, and Somalia 1993 (basis for Book & Movie "Black Hawk Down").

More information in lower left box.

## NATIONAL BOATING SAFETY WEEK IS MAY 17- 23 THIS YEAR

The theme is "**BOAT SMART. BOAT SAFE.**"

National Boating Safety Week should be National Boating Safety All the Time and the words "Boat Smart. Boat Safe" need to be etched in each boater's mind. At the April Power Squadron meeting, P/R/C/ Mary Jane Schnoor, the Squadron Safety Officer read an article to the group which appeared in the Orlando Sentinel dated 4/1/03—the title: **Boys Die, Parents Found Alive.**

The essence of the article is that "The Coast Guard found two boys dead and their parents barely alive Monday in Biscayne Bay. The bodies of the children were found floating with their parents about four miles offshore. The boat has not yet been found. A call from a relative led to the Coast Guard search."

**The 17' boat did not have a Float Plan, VHF radio, or a global positioning system. The parents and one child were wearing life vests." Jane hypothesized that the other child may have been wearing a life vest that was poorly fitted and thus it slipped off. Perhaps if they had observed all safe boating procedures their children might have sur-**

## CBPS Fortunate to Have McKnight as Guest Speaker

Colonel McKnight's awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit (2 awards), the Bronze Star Medal for Valor, the Purple Heart, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Ranger Tab, the Master Parachutist Badge with Combat Star, and the Pathfinder Badge. After completing 28 1/2 years service to our country, he returned to Brevard County where he now works as the County Homeland Security Coordinator.

## VESSEL SAFETY CHECK A SAFETY MEASURE FOR SAFE BOATING

P/R/C Mary Jane Schnoor, SN

Each year USPS and other boating organizations celebrate Safe Boating Week. The primary purpose for it is to remind all boaters of the need to practice safe boating procedures. For the past couple of years the theme has revolved around the importance of life preservers, when and who should be wearing one. But there are other safety practices that are equally important. A quick way to insure that you have proper safety equipment on board your boat is to have a Vessel Safety Check by one of our squadron's qualified examiners. The inspection takes only 10 to 20 minutes depending on the size of your vessel, and unlike your doctor, your friendly squadron examiners even make house calls.

When one of our VSC members find something missing or not working he/she will tell you about it. You can then purchase the missing item or fix a non-working article and have a re-inspection to secure your new 2003 Coast Guard - USPS decal. However if you did not have a VSC examination and you are stopped by the Coast Guard and something is missing or not working properly, you may receive a citation and a fine for any infraction. So do yourself a favor and call one of our VSC examiners today. You will find their names and phone numbers listed on page 23 of your new roster. Your new decal will be a testament that you, a member of the Cocoa Beach Power Squadron, practice that which we preach, good safety



Our thoughts, our prayers, and our support go out to the brave young men and women in the military, for those who lost their lives during this war, and for their loved ones at home. We are proud of their valor and their accomplishments.



## THE COMMANDER'S RECEPTION WAS A PLEASANT WAY TO SPEND THE DAY

**The Bridge Commander**

Lt/C Richard D. Fille, AP  
868-1883

**Executive Officer**

Lt/C Robert W. Schaefer, P  
784-9128

**Administrative Officer**

Lt/C Marion A. Miller, JN  
638-1247

**Educational Officer**

Lt/C Howard M. Bernbaum, SN  
452-0320

**Secretary**

Lt/C Pamela Johnson, P  
783-0560

**Treasurer**

Lt/C Raymond C. Smith, S  
799-1991

**Asst. Educational Officer**

P/C Lester Tributou, AP  
636-5811

**Asst. Secretary**

1/Lt Lea Collins, P  
631-3911

**Assistant Treasurer**

1/Lt Gary B. Pell, P  
784-5184

**Members-at-large**

P/D/C Fred Adame, SN  
635-9455  
Lt John F. Mulkey, P  
633-0094  
Lt John H. Lynn, P  
537-8438  
Lt Gary J. Monai, P  
799-3635

**The Soundings  
DEADLINE: THE 10TH OF  
EACH MONTH.**

**SEND ARTICLES TO :  
Soundings@cfl.rr.com**

**Editor:** Rhoda Bernbaum  
452-0320

**Co-editor:**

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Lt. George W. Brewster

**Photographer**

Lt. Trent S. Milliken, P

Cdr Dick Fille and his wife, Penny, graciously hosted a delightful outdoor reception. Another Fille, Mort, their engaging Lhaso Apso pup was present, full of pep, energy, and kisses adding charm to the festivities.

Dick circulated among his 85 guests and made them feel welcome.

To the right Bob Schaefer, his right-hand man, and Harry Bestow are enjoying the shade of those majestic trees all around Gene and Barbara Millner's scenic backyard.



Gene and Barbara have held the Commander's Receptions for 13 years. They were so busy making sure the event ran smoothly the photographer, could not take their picture.

To the left are the pier and docks. Nine boats motored or sailed to the Millners slips (isn't that view breathtaking?). Some of the boaters stayed the night aboard their vessels and had breakfast the following morning.



Below to the left is John Valentine looking good and cracking jokes. To the right is Fred Adame and spunky Doris Valentine in her wheel chair. She doesn't let her leg surgery stop her. The picture captures the beautiful palm trees and the river. I wonder if the Millners would adopt me?



Below, Marilyn and Bryan Grigsby chatting with Rhoda Bernbaum and enjoying refreshments.



Below, some of the 85 happy attendees.



At the end of this day, the Millner's bright, polite 5 year old grandson, Austin, graciously encircled my waist and said, " I hope you had a nice time. Thank you for coming." He's a very special young man.

## Executive Officer's Report

Lt/C Robert W. Schaefer, P

Last month I wrote about the Co-op Charting program. I have since learned more from District and the web. No Squadron in the District has adopted a Chart!!! The Cocoa Beach Squadron ranked second in the District last year and 72nd in the Nation. The participation year is April 1 to March 31.

Participants have reported navigational and geodetic information. (Be sure to read Mary Jane Schnoor's excellent article in The Ensign regarding their work in Maine) Thru November last year (2002) the following members have made reports:(last name for typing ease) Kadenbach, Monai G, Pappas, both Schnoors; and both Stones. Obviously we need more participation by members. The reports are easier now via the web. There will be an Co-op Charting orientation program within the next few weeks and I hope members will attend and join in this effort.

Bob Flannigan reports that the Vessel Safety Check program is going well and numerous checks have been made to date. A number of members participate.

Larry Hatfield had his folded tent at the boat flea market at Harbortown (3/12/03) with members spreading the word about the Squadron.

Pat Andrews continues to press for new releases in the Florida Today about our Educational programs and other activities of the Squadron.

Mary Jane Schnoor has received her packet of Boat Safety information and is active with the Safety Committee.

We are two and a half months into the new Squadron year and with Spring abounding I look for members to join in any activities that interest them. If you need info or help call or contact the Committee Chair at **784-9128** or

**robert.schaefer@prodigy.net**

## CBPS VSC Chairman Report

Lt Robert Flanigan, SN

We had a successful VSC Day at Harbortown Marina on 10 May 2003 from 0800 till 1200.

The VSC Examiners are off to a good start this year, as of now we have inspected 92 boats. Everybody keep up the good work. Any member who would like to become an VSC examiner, please contact

**Bob Flanigan, 452-4602.**



## Administrative Officer's Report

Lt/C Marion A. (Bud) Miller, AP

Isn't it great to be an American? I don't know about the rest of you, but I feel real proud of this great nation we call the USA. I got goose bumps the other day when I read about an Air Force pilot named Captain Kim Campbell who was flying an A-10 aircraft over Baghdad that was shot up real bad. In spite of no hydraulics, she flew the airplane back to base and landed safely. You may ask why it made such an impact on me? Well, prior to moving to Florida, I was the Fairchild- Republic plant manager at the facility where the A-10 was built.

Those of you who were not at our last meeting missed an excellent program. Our speaker was a retired naval officer who was at Pearl Harbor when the Japanese attacked. He described the events before, during, and after, in considerable detail. I learned a lot from him, and I'm sure others did as well. You must agree with me, Lt. Mark and Michelle, Anderson, AP's, are doing an excellent job arranging for interesting programs. The last one was typical of the quality programs we provide. Not only are they entertaining, but educational as well. If you know of any speakers you believe would be good for our meetings, please contact Mark or Michelle. Recommendations by members have always been a good source for speakers.

Boating activities are picking up with the Marker 21 overnight cruise in April, and Blessing of the Fleet scheduled at the end of Safe Boating Week, on Saturday, May 24. It will be held in the Indian River just off Lee Wenner Park in Cocoa, starting at 11:00 AM. A picnic at the new pavillion will follow and a barbeque grill will be provided. This event is for boats of all sizes, and all boaters are invited. Refer to the ad (pg 6)for details.

Our membership committee have reminded me that membership renewal is coming soon. Please be sure to renew your membership and return your dues payment expeditiously. This will make our Treasurer very happy. Seriously, you can't beat the deal for the cost! Where else can you find one organization that can offer as much in terms of education, boating activities, social events, good fellowship, and last but not least, provide a public service for our community? Also, for those who would like to accept some responsibility for squadron activities, we can provide those opportunities as well.

See ya'll at the next meeting, and keep checking that stuffing box.

*Bud Miller*

## Thanks To CBPS Volunteers Who Worked At Citizens For Florida Waterways Flea Market

The annual flea market sponsored by Citizens for Florida Waterways at Harbortown Marina on 12 April and 13 April was very well attended.

Cocoa Beach Power Squadron was on hand with their promotional tent set up to recruit students for our public boating course as well as to inform people about our educational courses, the Squadron, and our valuable services including the Vessel Safety Check. We thank those who helped staff the tent. They are Lt Pat S Andrews, S, Lt Joe Auchter, AP, Lt Clarence Pennington, S, Lt Marian Sweigart, AP, Lt John Mulkey, P, Lt/C Bud Miller, AP, Joan Monfort, S, Lt John Klotch, P, P/C Duane Balkema, AP, and Lt/C Bob Schaefer, P.

This is a very valuable service which helps to assure well attended boating classes and strengthen our membership. We need your help in this promotion. You will have a very enjoyable time and also work towards an annual Merit Mark.

P/C Larry Hatfield, SN Boat Show Chairman

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## SEO REPORT

Lt/C Howard Bernbaum, SN

April was a busy month in the Education Department. Fourteen students sat for the Engine Maintenance exam and 8 for Piloting. Additionally, April also marked the start up of three courses, Seamanship, Advanced Piloting, and Marine Electronics. What a wonderful year we are having and what a wonderful group of students. Those of you who are not taking advantage of these educational opportunities don't know what you are missing. Besides the knowledge gained, our students are getting to know each other and are developing a feeling of kinship with the squadron. We find the more you participate, the more your pleasure in being a member of one of the best squadrons in all the USPS.

There were 32 people enrolled in BoatSmart in March . 26 of the 27 who took the exam passed.

### Honor Roll

The following students have passed the Engine Maintenance course.

James L. Allen	Larry and Cathy Carr
Denise Hoffman	Randy and Pam Johnson
Joe Kates	D. Scott Kee
Gary Kingrea	Daniel Matthews
Clarence Pennington	Lynne Schaeffer
Raymond Smith	

While all these students had high grades, Larry Carr and Gary Kingrea both aced the exam with perfect scores.

We also add Judy Lynn Hutcherson and Debbie Farrar to those who have passed Seamanship.



Let's give three cheers and one cheer more for Lt John Mulkey, S, who has successfully conducted the BoatSmart courses for more than a year

## ASST. SEO'S REPORT

P/C Les Tribout, AP

"Be sure to make your reservations for the National Governing Board Meeting in New Orleans The deadline was April 7th, but perhaps you can get a late reservation. "

Your National Educational Dept has big plans for the Educational Dept. workshop in New Orleans. The Educational Dept. chairmen have some special reports, presentations and info on new CD's available for our class room presentations. The aim here is to attract the younger generation and hold their interest in the classes. When they recognize the professionalism of our teachers, we hope they will continue on through advanced courses after they become members.

It is the hoped that when the War with Iraq is over, we are going to see a big increase in interest in the CBPS. "Historically when veterans return home they take a deeper interest in family, community and they enjoy spending quality time with their wives and children. Safe recreational fun such as boating and other water sports so popular in our area provide this, and Power Squadron presents **SAFE BOATING EDUCATION.**

There are many important workshops which will be covered giving you much valuable information. Please make plans now to attend and support your USPS.

REMEMBER OUR 2003 MOTTO

TAKE A COURSE - TEACH A COURSE



You, too, can be part of the CBPS picture. These fine men and women play an important role in serving our community through education, Vessel Safety Checks , Co-op Charting, and fund-raising to support these endeavors. This picture was taken at the March Boat Smart exam night.

L to R Front row are Marion Sweigert, Joan Sayyah, and Jane Seebree. Behind them L to R are Paul Pfadenhauer, Frank Seebree, Dick Fille, John Mulkey, Ed Kydd, George Hess, Ray Sayyah, and Howard Bernbaum.

The veteran members of CBPS welcome new members to work alongside of them and enjoy what CBPS has to offer.

## CHAPLAIN'S REPORT

Lt Denise Stone, P

Please keep Pat Schwichtenberg who died March 28, 2003 in your prayers. Pat was the wife of an active CBPS member, Allen. May he and their family find comfort in their many wonderful memories.

Doris Valentine is recovering from a fall that seriously injured her knee. Cards and calls are welcomed.

I just found out tonight that our Supply Officer, Jerry Blanchard, is in the hospital for a knee operation. He just had the operation today and will be in the hospital for a few days, unfortunately I'm not sure which hospital it is. I'll get an update and post it. His home phone is 799-1666.

And on a very happy note:

Gary and Lorraine Pell were delighted when they received word that their daughter, Cherie, and their son-in-law, Stephen Cseley of Nantucket told them that Lukash (Russian for Lucas) arrived on 3-20 at 7:50 PM. From his pictures he looks like a handsome, healthy baby boy.

**Happy 87th birthday, Jim Kneeland**

We miss your comments and humor at our monthly meetings! Jim is scheduled to get his cast removed from his leg and he enjoys shorts visits from his friends.

To all our shipmates who are dealing with health issues, know we care and miss you at our meetings and socials.

**Denise**

### OUR CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY



Marie Olin, AP, past president of the Coconauts in 1979, died on January 27, 2003, in her home in Georgia. The CBPS extends our sympathy to P/C Oscar Olin, N, and to her family.

*Our task is to meet each day  
with grace*

## COOPERATIVE CHARTING

FROM: Ken Forster

National Ocean Service, NOAA

SUBJECT: New Web site address for CCWEB

The Cooperative Charting (CCWEB) Web site has been moved. The old url with the Cooperative Charting logo, (<http://chartmaker.ncd.noaa.gov/mcd/uspscoop/default.htm>) will still be active temporarily until everyone has moved to the new one. This url will now advance you to the Office of Coast Survey (OCS) Web site <http://nauticalcharts.noaa.gov>. The new url should be book marked and used exclusively from now on.

Once the user has arrived at the OCS Web site, he/she should click on the icon that says Cooperative Charting (CCWEB). The next page will say U.S. Power Squadrons Cooperative Charting Program. This page gives an overview of the program. To enter information, click on 'Go to CCWEB'.

CCWEB is also located in the left side bar under What's New? This link will bring you to another page with the Cooperative Charting logo. If you have any questions please contact me at [ken.forster@noaa.gov](mailto:ken.forster@noaa.gov) or call me at 301-713-2737 x130. Thanks!

Lt Gary Monai, P, seeks volunteers for the Coop Charting Program. You can get on your boat, have a pleasant time and perform a community service. Any questions? **Ask Gary: 799-3695**

## Welcome Aboard New Members

**Lt Gerald E. Blanchard,**  
S8951 Lake Drive #306

Cape Canaveral, FL 32920321-799-1666  
email GEB43@hotmail.com

**Harry Bestow**

5201 Ocean Beach Boulevard  
Unit 16  
Cocoa Beach, FL 32931



We have no photographs of Gene and Barbara Millner who provided the lovely setting for the Commander's reception, but we do have a snapshot of Austin Millner, their grandson, dressed for this fun event. He should be made an honorary member of the Squadron. He is as gracious as his grandparents.

## TRY IT, YOU'LL LIKE IT

Lt Larry Carr, P Information Systems Officer

The April Soundings is now available on-line. The color photos look great! Remember, you can open the Soundings [http://cbps.us/soundings\\_top.html](http://cbps.us/soundings_top.html) and if you have a color printer, print your own color copy!! You will be spoiled!!!

To view the April issue go to <http://cbps.us/Soundings/April%202003.pdf> or if your email program doesn't support direct links, copy the URL into your internet browser. The Cocoa Beach Power Squadron home page can be found at: <http://cbps.us>

If you need any help drop me an email (reply to this email is OK) and I'll get you going as soon as possible.

**My phone: 321-784-6404 email [lcarr@cfl.rr.com](mailto:lcarr@cfl.rr.com)**  
(The May Issue might be available by the time you receive this newsletter)



**MAY EVENTS**

**02 Friday 1100 to 1400 hours**  
**Veterans Memorial Center**  
**COCONAUT'S LUNCHEON-**  
**CARD-GAMES-**  
**SILENT AUCTION**  
**COST \$12.00**  
*Please attend*



**06 Tuesday 1900 hours**  
**CBPS General Meeting**  
**Veterans Memorial Center**

**14 Wed. 0900-100 hours**  
**Blood Bank**  
**Veterans Memorial Center**

**17 Saturday 1100 to 1600 hours**  
**D-23 Picnic**  
 See details, page 8

**24 Saturday- Morning**  
**Blessing of the Fleet**  
**Lee Wenner Park, Cocoa**

**27 Tuesday 1900 hours**  
**Executive Board Meeting**  
**Veterans Memorial Center**

**JUNE EVENTS**

**03 Tuesday 1900 hours**  
**CBPS General Meeting**  
**Veteran's Memorial Center**

**21 Saturday About 1200 hrs**  
**Raft Up Ski Island**  
**More information next month**

**23 Monday TBD Hours**  
**D-23 Council Meeting**  
**Leesburg Silver Lake**  
**Community Church**  
**34030 Radio Road**  
 Will have workshops including  
 one on Vessel Safety Checks

**24 Tuesday 1900 Hours**  
**CBPS Exec. Board Meeting**  
**Veterans Memorial Center**



*Don't forget the Coco-Naut's  
 Luncheon, auction, and  
 game party, May 2, at the  
 VSC*



**Blood Bank Donation**  
**Wednesday, 14 May Time**  
**Veterans Memorial Center**

Donating your blood may save an accident victim, help a premature baby or assist in someone's fight against cancer. Perhaps it will someday benefit you or someone you love.

CBPS blood donation accounts may be used not only by members and their immediate families, but also by extended family members in Brevard County. That includes aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews – yes – even your in-laws.

**Next CBPS Blood Drive:**  
**Wednesday, 14 May- 0900-1100**

**The following Power Squadron members donated their blood**

- |                             |                  |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Joe Auchter                 | Scott Kee        |
| Howard Bernbaum             | Ed Kydd          |
| Patricia Clay               | John Lynn        |
| Bob Flanigan                | Barbara Millner  |
| John Flanigan               | Paul Pfaadenauer |
| Pam Johnson & Larry Johnson | Frank Sebree     |

**19 March. Our thanks.**

**The Central Florida blood bank is sending blood to our military units— one way to help our men overseas.**



**BLESSING of the FLEET**

**Sponsored By**  
**Cocoa Beach Power Squadron**  
**Saturday--24 May--11:00AM**



**Location:** Indian River South of Lee Wenner Park  
 Cocoa, Florida

**Boats Will be Blessed Individually**  
 Picnic at Lee Wenner Park Pavillion to follow.  
 All boaters invited to participate

Inspectors Available to perform VSC's  
 VHF Channel 71 will be used for instructions and boat blessings.  
 Flotilla will start at buoy "A" off Oleander Pointe Condo and proceed Single File North Towards Lee Wenner Park past the Blessing Vessel, following the lead boat.

**Information and Picnic Reservations :**  
**Call 638-1247**

Picnic will begin be from 1-4 pm. Charcoal will be made available for grilling. BYOB and food. Additional information available from Randy Johnson at 783-0560 and on the CBPS web page.

**DEDICATED TO BOATING SAFETY FOR THE MILLENNIUM**

**95 years old-WOW!**

April 10<sup>th</sup> was a monumental day for the Cocoa Beach Power Squadron. For on this day one of our members celebrated his 95<sup>th</sup> birthday. That member joined USPS in 1943. He has earned 36 merit marks to date and is busy working on his 37<sup>th</sup>. He has received the Cooperative Charting trophy 12 times and has been recognized by NOAA for the outstanding number of geodetic marks that he has found year after year. Who is this member? None other than Jerry Kadenbach, AP. So the next time you see Jerry wish him a great big HAPPY BIRTHDAY.



We all look forward to helping you celebrate your 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, Jerry, in just 5 more years  
 .Reported by Jane Schnoor

*Happy birthday, Jerry*

## District 23 Summer Council Meeting

**Date:** Saturday, 14 June 2003

**Location:** Silver Lake Community Church  
34030 Radio Rd.  
Leesburg, FL 34789-5307



**Schedule:** 0800-0900 Bridge Meeting  
0900-1000 Workshops  
1000-1130 Department Meetings (Cdr, Exec, etc)  
1130-1230 Lunch  
Council Meeting

**Directions:** Take 441 to Lake Square Mall.

**From Orlando:** Turn right at Barnhill's Buffet onto Radio Rd.

Road runs straight, then curves to left. Church is on the right as road curves.

**From Leesburg:** Turn left onto Radio Rd. Follow directions as above.

**Lunch: Menu:** Baked chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, tossed salad, rolls, cobbler with ice cream, tea and coffee.

The lunch will be served by the church youth group, with proceeds going towards their trip to Denver for a youth convention.

**Cost - \$10.00 Per person.** Reservations required.

**Lunch Reservations:** Mail check for \$10.00 per person, payable to "District 23", to:

P/C Robert G. Baird. AP

2590 Eastland Rd.

Mt. Dora, FL 32757

Phone: 352-383-2104

E-Mail: [nbaird@comcast.net](mailto:nbaird@comcast.net)

**All reservations must be in NLT Tuesday, 10 June**

2003

## Attention USPS Members

While many of us are caught up in current world events and while our thoughts, prayers, and support go out to the young men and women in our military, we should make every effort to rebuff those who would wish us harm or change our way of life by continuing to go about our daily lives as normally as is possible. The Spring Governing Board in New Orleans is almost upon us and time is running out on the USPS room block with only 10 days remaining before the cutoff. Rooms are still available but more importantly, we have not yet met our room commitment. If you have entertained thoughts on attending this meeting but have not yet made your room reservations, please be encouraged to do so as quickly as possible.

We would also appreciate any support that you can provide in sharing this note and any encouragement that you can provide with other USPS members whom you have contact with.

**Sheraton New Orleans Hotel**  
**1- (800) 253-6156 - toll free for reservations or alternatively (504) 525-2500**

**V/C Ernie Marshburn, SN**  
**and the**  
**National Meetings Committee.**

### **FROM THE DISTRICT BRIDGE**—D/Lt/C George Fontes, AP

Membership Retention is the focus of USPS. All squadrons should work to acquire new members throughout the year but retention of members is most important. Member Involvement is the life blood of each squadron. Plenty of effort goes into getting new members to join USPS, but a review of the new member dropout rate after a year or two indicates they were "not involved". Each squadron has its own strategy of how to retain members. Look around. The members who show up at meetings, picnics, boating activities, classes, etc., are also the members who are involved and retained.

Every member of each squadron can help in membership retention by introducing himself to new members. Ask them a few personal questions such as where do you live, etc. Ask them if they have any plans as to getting involved. Tell them of some of your experiences of getting involved. If they mention a specific area, follow thru and introduce them to the Chairman or Bridge Officer for that activity. Telephoning and newsletter articles can only do so much. The personal approach works. If we are friendly to new members they will become at ease with us. If all of us take a few minutes at each meeting, event, class, etc., to help make a new member welcome and truly a member, it will help overcome the retention problem.

New members: Why not invite a friend to a meeting of special interest.?

New Subject. The District Administrative Department needs your help. It is always nice when the squadrons get together. To do this we need your suggestions and sponsorship. Any suggestions as to a D/23 Boating Activity? Location for a Council Meeting? Workshops? Remember the District is you. The District Picnic in Titusville is always a great event thanks to P/C Greig Lindner and the Titusville Power Squadron. Can you come up with another joint Squadron event?

**Enjoyable social events help keep members interested and active in the USPS.**



## Greetings from the District 23 Bridge

D/Lt/C N. Ann Fields, SN - D23 Executive Officer



The Spring boating season is finally here, and we're all anxious to take advantage of the great weather this time of year and enjoy some activities out on the water! Why not come and enjoy a great day of fun at the District 23 Annual Picnic on Saturday, May 17th, 2003. As in past years, the Titusville Squadron hosts this event at the Grand Pavilion, Sand Point Park, in Titusville, which is a gorgeous location with great facilities right on the Intercoastal waterway. The price is \$6 (\$2.50 for children 6-12) and includes all the corn-on-the-cob you want, beer, soft drinks, grills, charcoal, cooking utensils, condiments, and paper plates, etc; bring your own entree for grilling and a side dish to share. There'll be music by 'Jammin Joe & Son', door prizes, raffle, and games. This annual event is always lots of fun, and gives us all a chance to enjoy the camaraderie of our friends from District 23, and make new friends! Come by boat or by car - directions and on the D23 website at [www.usps.org/localusps/d23](http://www.usps.org/localusps/d23) - but be sure to mark your calendars now!

National Boating Safety Week is May 17- 23 this year, with the theme of "BOAT SMART. BOAT SAFE." During this annual event, USPS squadrons work with the National Safe Boating Council and several other groups interested in boating safety, with the purpose of promoting the theme of 'Boating Safety' to the public. I know all D23 squadrons are making their plans to participate in this nation-wide campaign, and I encourage each of you to let your Squadron Safety Officer know that you'll volunteer a few hours to help out in this effort. *What can you do?* Pass out boating safety literature at the local boat ramp, marina, or boat show and talk to folks about the importance of safety on the water. Encourage enrollment in a safe boating course. Stress the importance of a well equipped and properly maintained boat. Point out the dangerous effects of alcohol and carbon monoxide. The National Safe Boating Council encourages us to be sure our campaign efforts reach out to **both** the boat operator and the passengers on boats. This is one of our very important Civic Service activities, and I hope you'll all participate in your Squadron's activities during this campaign.

Vessel Safety Checks are in full swing for 2003. D23 did a really great job in VSCs last year, and we hope to do even better this year. The National VSC awareness campaign will run through the entire month of June. In D23, we've designated Saturday, **June 7** as **VSC Day** where all D23 squadrons are invited to put on a 'VSC Blitz', with boater refreshments on hand, publicity on classes, USPS information, multiple examiners on hand, and maximum participation from the squadron members in the effort to promote Vessel Safety Checks. D23 VSC Chair Frank Murphy will have more information on this effort at a later time, but plan on sponsoring a BIG Vessel Safety Check effort on **June 7, 2003**.

The next D23 meeting is the **Summer Council**, which will be **Saturday, June 14** at the Silver Lake Community Church in Leesburg, FL. We'll have some workshops during the day, including one on **Vessel Safety Checks**; other workshops are in the planning stage. Remember, these workshops are for **all** squadron members interested in learning more about different aspects of USPS, and are **not just** for Squadron Bridge officers and Squadron Chairs. Please send in your lunch reservation by June 7. A detailed agenda for the Jun 14 meeting, including lunch information, will be sent to all Squadron Commanders in the official Call to the Meeting and will also be made available on the D23 website.

I encourage you to let your district bridge officers know what workshops you'd like to participate in at the District Council meetings and Conferences, and we'll do our best to provide them at future district meetings. You can reach any district bridge officer by calling us, or by going to the D23 website (address above), clicking on 'Bridge Officers', then clicking on the name of the officer you'd like to send an e-mail to; your e-mail browser will open with the individual's e-mail address ready to go! We really would like to hear from you, so please contact us anytime. Hoping to see many of you at the D23 Picnic May 17 and the Council meeting June 14!

**And remember to**

**BOAT SMART!**

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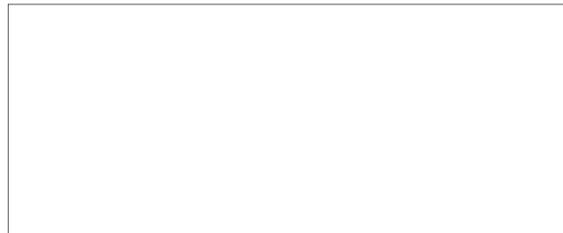
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