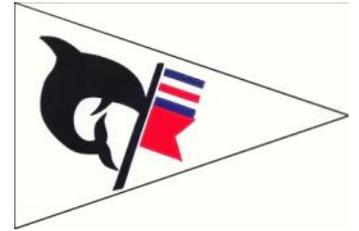




The Soundings



Summer 2015 newsletter

Cocoa Beach Sail & Power Squadron (www.cbsps.org)

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Membership Meetings

Tuesday 7 July @ 1900
Tuesday 4 August @1900
Tuesday 1 September @ 1800

Brevard Memorial Veterans Center
400 Sykes Creek Pkwy - Merritt Island

Monthly Specials

July: - Donn Weaver- Chairman BVMC
August: - Matt Culver- Brevard County
September: - Italian Night @ 1800
 - No "official" meeting

All the details on www.cbsps.org


www.facebook.com/CocoaBeachSPS

CBSPS Mission

The Cocoa Beach Sail & Power Squadron is a non-profit organization serving Boater's education needs in Central Brevard County since 1967. Our mission is to promote recreational boating safety through education and civic activities while providing fellowship for our members.

"Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the Friends"

To join us, contact Membership@cbsps.org

AT THE HELM

Cdr Lou Harlow, JN



“Knowledge is power” a phrase that most of us accept as the truth. The Cocoa Beach Sail and Power Squadron training classes are providing members and the boating public with the knowledge to enjoy our waterways safely and with confidence. Sandy Schoonmaker, SN and her instructors are offering valuable services week after week to those of us drawn to the waters surrounding us.

Comments made by other squadrons tell me that we have the best training opportunities in the District. CBSPS offers a wide array of programs and classes. Our instructors offer in depth knowledge of the courses and personal hands on experience. Sandy’s team works hard to provide excellent classroom space and agreeable schedules. CBSPS nautical professors also offer tutoring as necessary when requested. Results speak for themselves; as classes complete, students sign up for upcoming ones.

Many of our members are the direct result of initially interfacing with our training programs. If you have a friend or neighbor interested in buying a boat, already has a boat or is just interested in the waterfront, direct them to our website. Better yet, ask them to come with you to our next meeting. If they have real interest, they will appreciate your offer.

“Riesenberg Saying”

“The sea is selective, slow at recognition of effort and aptitude but fast in sinking the unfit”

Felix Riesenberg, mariner, explorer, administrator, author.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Lt/C John FitzGerald, AP



Scholarship:

The Richard and Mary Jane Schnoor undergraduate scholarship is only at $\frac{1}{4}$ **the expected amount for the fiscal year**. We need to raise money to keep the scholarship on track with our \$1,000.00 goal. We would like to thank the Silver Tridents, John & Theresa FitzGerald for their donations as well as Sandy Hazlett and all who donate cans which are recycled at Greg O'Leary's recycling facility. The XO is accepting all contributions.

Vessel Safety Check & Safety Committees:

P/C Robert Rutigliano, JN-IN is still going full steam on VSC's. We are well on our way to last year's total so if you have a boat or friend who has a boat, have your boat inspected: it's FREE and we come to your boat. Our total as of the writing of this article was 96 VSC's completed and 19 requests from the West Marine event. With your help, we can be #1 in the district. Thank you to all the examiners.

Boat Show Committee:

Lt Mike Glynn, AP has been very busy. He has coordinated multiple boat shows since the last publication including the Coastal Angler Magazine Boating & Fishing Expo. at Boaters Exchange, Harbortown Marina Flea Market and the Kiwanis Island Waterfest. There were so many members assisting Mike at these events it was impressive. Thank you to: Mike Glynn, Ron Raphael, Bud Miller, Bob & Jan Brown, Duane Balkema, Bob Rutigliano, John Mulkey, Rick and Sandy Schoonmaker, Garry Pepin, George Shapow, Jose Casals, John & Theresa FitzGerald, Jay & Donna Longway, Tom & Julia Hoffman, Leonard Senibaldi, Steve & Doris Switsky, Lou Harlow and Doug Bisset. If I left your name out my apologies. Many of these members have done multiple shows at multiple times.

Facebook:

Lt Winifred Crawford, is doing an excellent job keeping the page up and running. There are several interesting posts on the site. There are now 60 people following us. Last month there were 49. Go to Facebook and search "Cocoa Beach Sail and Power Squadron" LIKE us.

Public Relations:

Lt. Jose Casals has agreed to do the Public Relations position. It's great to see a new member take a lead role in the squadron.

Liaison Committee:

P/C J. P. Longway III, P is keeping the squadron up on all things going in Brevard Co. that's important to the squadron.

Website Committee:

P/Lt/C Richard Schoonmaker, SN keeps our website up and running (www.cbsps.org). He continues to do a great job with this time consuming task. The website is the spot for all information CBSPS as well as changes to events.

Radio Technical Officer:

Lt /C George Shapow, S will continue to keep the squadron up to date with any changes in the technical field.

Finally, I would like to thank all members who helped with the very successful two day event held at West Marine. This was a multi-departmental task that went on without any issues. **We can do anything if we work together.**

Thanks to our 2015 Scholarship Fund Donors

SQUADRON EDUCATION OFFICER

P/C Sandra Schoonmaker, SN



What's In It For Me?

The \$64,000.00 question put to the SEO last week: "What's in it for me to take the test after having completed this course?" Good question!

USPS classes are unlike a formal schooling situation: enrollment is voluntary; choice of learning opportunities is limited to the courses taught by squadron in a given time frame; there is no accredited degree upon completion; members do not have to take courses to be active members.

All of the above point to a scenario that differs from the traditional educational format and therefore cannot be viewed in the same context.

First clarification must be made in regards to Advanced Grade Courses which include Seamanship, Piloting, Advance Piloting, Jr. Navigation and Navigation. These are sequential courses and successful testing is required to proceed to the next level. All, except Seamanship, are open book tests completed at home.

The answer to the question in relation to the Elective Courses, such as Sail, Marine Communications, Electrical Systems, etc, is more difficult to answer since it depends upon the motivation of the individual student. The traditional method of assessing the success of any learning experience is to take a test with the grade indicating the level of proficiency achieved. Historically USPS did not return tests since the records simply show an individual passed the class. Failures are not kept in their records. Members requested the policy be changed so that they could see the numerical grade and the questions missed. They wanted to use the test as a tool to assess the areas where they needed further study. This could be viewed as a reason to take a test.

USPS has several levels of recognition for students who have passed classes. The most visible is the recognition of a "grade level" for each Advanced Grade achieved: "S" after a name to indicate the individual has passed Seamanship. The Educational Proficiency Award is given to those who have a grade of AP and have passed 3 elective classes. The Educational Achievement Award is a grade of N plus six of the eight electives; they are given the grade of SN. These awards are meaningful to many members and for some become the goal for passing classes. For others, they are merely public recognition of their educational successes.

But there are students who are satisfied with having attended a class and acquiring the information that is important to them. They need no affirmation of their personal gain; the end result for them is what they learned, not what they proved they learned. These are the students who may find there is nothing in it for them to take a test.

"What is in it for me to take a test at the end of a class?" The answer is determined by the needs, motivations, and goals of the individual. It is a personal decision which is respected by the instructor, SEO and the organization.

Boating Education

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Lt/C Tom Courtney, AP



We have had a tremendous start to our year.

First of all we want welcome aboard 8 new members who have joined the squadron: **Aaron Dumont, Charley & Pat Dinkey, Bob Scott and Tammy Scott, Steven & Mary Anne Moore and Wilson Suarez.**

The Change of Watch, with the swearing in of Commander **Lou Harlow's** new bridge, in February, packed the Cape Canaveral Yacht Club to start things off.

That was followed by a "cruise" to Sunset Grill. The weather was less than ideal but **Captain Tom Hoffman** and first mate **Pat Lusk** did brave the conditions on their boat along with 40 or so squadron members who came by land, to make the day in spite of the weather.

Sandy Hazlett was our Chili Cook Off winner in March.

We all had a great day at the Meet the Bridge picnic at Kiwanis Park.

7 boats and 30 or so of us cruised to Samsons Island to enjoy lunch and bird watching. The highlight was a chance to see a nesting owl and her chick in a nest that last year was occupied by an osprey.

Our April general meeting featured Captain **Jim Green** and first mate & wife **Carolyn** sharing their video, sailing "Lady Longlegs", from North Carolina to Merritt Island.

Our Scavenger Boat Hunt was a roaring success, 7 boats, and 19 scavengers, ending up at **Duane & Margie Balkema's** house to tally the scores, swap tales and have lunch.

May's general meeting included author, sailor **Bob Brown's** 1st leg (Tampa to NYC) of his amazing voyage across the Atlantic in a 21' flats boat. Bob and his brother set a world record to honor wounded veterans.

Our night out to the Florida Eastern State College Planetarium had 50 or so folks in attendance to share some finger food and see their IMAX presentation "The Living Seas". It was a good night for star gazing as well.

XO, **John FitzGerald**, won the cardboard boat race at the District picnic in Titusville. He was supported by a large contingent of Cocoa Beach Sail & Power Squadron members who attended to root him on.

On the last weekend of May we partnered with West Marine Merritt Island to have our Safe Boating Virtual Trainer on hand at their store along with our Vessel Safety Check to sign up folks for a free vessel check. . Around 50 people practiced on the trainer while 19 boat owners signed up or had an inspection completed at the store.

I hope everyone had a chance to attend one or more of these events and will continue to do so as we have planned for a summer filled with guest speakers, boat outings and don't forget "Italian Night" in September.

On behalf of all of the squadron I want to thank the hard work of our Committees. These are the folks who help, who along with your participation make our events the best.

Membership Committee: **Lt/C Bob Brown, Ron Raphael**

Entertainment Committee: **Lt. Doris Valentine**, committee members, **P/C Jay Longway, P/C Lance Vandenberg, Tracy & Sandy Hazlett**

Boat Committee: **P/C Duane Balkema, XO John Fitzgerald, Doug Bisset.**

Boating Report by P/C Duane L. Balkema, AP

PAST QUARTER EVENTS

For our February 28th "Cruise" to Sunset Grill, the weather was less than ideal. But **Captain Tom Hoffman** and first mate **Pat Lusk** did brave the rain on their boat. We had 30 squadron members make the event by car including many first time folks.

March 22nd Seven boats and 30 or so of us **cruised to Samsons Island** on Grand Canal near Mathers Bridge to enjoy lunch and nature watching. The highlight was to see a nesting owl and her chick in a nest that last year was occupied by an osprey.

Our April 18th **Scavenger Hunt** was a roaring success with 26 scavengers on 7 boats (Fitzgeralds, Haslettes, Hoffmans, Rutiglianos, Pipens, Smalls, Balkemas) ending up at Balkema's house on Banana River to tally the scores, swap tales and eat a bite. First Prize of \$30 went to Jay & Donna Longway Team who passed it to their Captain John Small, 2nd Prize of \$20 went to the Hoffmans, and John & Jill Small won the donated by John Fitzgerald bottle of Wine for hosting the largest number of teams on their boat.

On May 9th XO, **John FitzGerald**, won the cardboard boat race at the District picnic in Titusville. He was supported by a large contingent of CBSPS Members cheering.

Our Annual "**Blessing of the Fleet**" held June 6th in waters off Lee Wenner Park had 17 boats pass by and blessed by Pastor Jay Bergstresser of Lutheran Church of the Resurrection of Cocoa Beach. District 23 Cdr Roy Merritt led the procession on a fine weather day. Following the Blessing, 62 Members gathered at the Park Pavilion to eat and socialize. Titusville & Banana River Squadrons supported the event.

At the time of publishing, we will be having our "**Cruise to Captain Hiram**" on June 20th and we expect several boaters to make the trip. See details on Flyer.

SUMMER BOATING EVENTS

A really rare treat is planned with a **nighttime Biofluorescence Observation Cruise on the Blue Dolphin** operated by squadron member Captain Mark Anderson & First Mate Michelle Anderson. The Date is July 18, 2015, see details on the Flyer elsewhere.

We **Cruise to "Grills Riverside Seafood Deck & Tiki Bar"** August 15, 2015 meeting there at 1200. They have good docks. See details on Flyer elsewhere.

Under review for September is a Sailing Event if we can organize it or a Kayak event. You are advised to continue to watch the Events Calendar of the Soundings.

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS:

- 20 June:** Cruise to Captain Hiram's
- 7 July:** General meeting– Speaker Donn Weaver- Chairman of BVMC
- 18 July:** Bioluminescence Tour with Space Coast River Tours- 6pm.
- 4 August:** General meeting- Speaker Matt Culver- Brevard County Natural Resources
- 1 September:** Italian Night
- 19 September:** Sail Regatta

Please visit cbsps.org calendar of events for further details

FALL CLASSES NOW ENROLLING:

SAIL:

Mondays: 14 September – 16 November
1900-2100

Cost: \$52.00/member. \$62/two members sharing a book

JUNIOR NAVIGATION:

Thursdays: 10 September -
1900-2100

Cost: \$91.00/member

Both classes held at: Wuesthoff Cardiac Rehab Center
US Rte. 1
Rockledge, Florida

Sign up on-line www.cbsps.org or via email seo@cbsps.org

Cocoa Beach Sail & Power Squadron's

SPACE COAST RIVER TOUR Nighttime Bioluminescence Tour



When: Saturday, 18 July @7pm
Where: Kelly Park
Cost: \$35/person

Details: Each summer the waters of the Banana River Lagoon come alive with the arrival of the bioluminescent plankton. Watch as the waves and current stir up these tiny organisms as they light up the water with a green glow. The boat (The Blue Dolphin) comfortably seats 49, has a restroom and is also handicapped accessible. Captain Mark, a member of the Cocoa Beach Sail and Power Squadron, leads the tour. Let's support a fellow squadron members business and have a good showing. All are welcome. Invite your friends to come.

Contact P/C Duane Balkema @ 321-452-5892 or ao@cbsps.org w/ questions



Cocoa Beach Sail & Power Squadron's

ITALIAN NIGHT



When: Tuesday, 1 September

When: 1800 hrs

Cost: \$5 person

Please bring your favorite Italian Dish to share.

The Squadron will provide wine, beer, soft drinks, water, plates, utensils, napkins.

Please sign up with Doris Valentine prior to the 1st.

Boating Skills Virtual Trainer (BSVT)



The Boating Skills Virtual Trainer (BSVT), the industry's premier interactive simulation-based boating safety program and powerful instructor tool. The Boating Skills VT is a USPS training unit funded by a grant from the U.S. Coast Guard with advanced water physics developed by Virtual Driver Interactive (VDI). Supporting partners include Brunswick Marine Corporation, BoatUS Foundation, Mercury Marine, Boston Whaler and the National Safe Boating Council.

Lesson Environments include:

Departing the Dock Working with Spring Lines Fairways Pivot Turns Moorings Docking Slalom Crossing/Overtaking/Meeting Emergency Stop Training in heavy wind, strong current, day /night scenarios
For more information, visit the website:

www.usps.org/boatingskillsvt

Boating Skills Virtual Trainer Introduced by United States Power Squadrons® and Virtual Driver Interactive

United States Power Squadrons

1504 Blue Ridge Raleigh, NC 27607-3906

888-FOR-USPS 888-367-8777

The Boat Skills VT includes: Three 20" monitors, a boating console including wheel and Mercury Marine throttle with trim buttons, nav. lights and horn, the ability to change wind and current conditions, as well choosing day or night scenes.

The BSVT allows students to maneuver a "Boston Whaler" on a lake of 3.5 miles x 4 miles in a virtual mode where there are no other boats, no water and no risks. The helm seat sits next to a regular conference table. Exercises are built in to allow an instructor to direct maneuvers from basic to advanced by adjusting wind and current direction and strength.

The above description was from www.usps.org

CBSPS and the BSVT:

The USPS National Conference was held in Jacksonville, FL. and members of CBSPS attended on 22 January, 2015 where National had the BSVT. Although the members were aware of the BSVT, we had never actually seen it in person. Several members tested the unit and instantly knew we wanted our membership to experience this trainer. The topic was brought up at the Executive Meeting and we decided to get the BSVT and use it to the best advantage of CBSPS. (Continue page 11)

Several months ago CBSPS put a reservation in to acquire the machine and see how long we would be able to have it. National has 9 units that they distribute throughout the entire United States. It comes in 4 big cases by UPS and must be mailed back the same way. The request was approved. With this great news we went to West Marine on Merritt Island where we spoke with store manager Alex Izaguirre to try and have an event there. Alex was very receptive to the idea and not only let CBSPS present the BSVT at his store but let CBSPS hand out safety items, recruitment items and set up a tent to conduct VSC. West Marine Merritt Island also made posters and flyers that they handed out to every customer at their expense and also gave up valuable floor space in the store for two days. Our event was a complete success with the help of many members dedicating their valuable time to assist in the running of it. We had over 50 people use the BSVT, signed up 19 VSC and put most importantly let the public know who the USPS and CBSPS are and what we do. The BSVT was then brought to the CBSPS 02 June, 2015 meeting where members were able to use the trainer exclusively. We enjoyed a night of food, friendship and fun.

The BSVT was brought to CBSPS at great expense. This unit is free to the squadron to use as a tool from the USPS; however there is a very high shipping cost. This is due to the delicate nature of the equipment. The Executive Committee discussed and decided that a portion of the money we received from the inheritance check of P/Lt/C Ed Hradesky, SN, would be an excellent way to pay for this opportunity. It was felt that P/Lt/C Hradesky, SN, would have wanted the members of CBSPS to enjoy the trainer and to have the public learn about boating safety with this great tool. Thank you to Ed and his family for remembering CBSPS. It is much appreciated.



SECRETARY**Lt/C Theresa FitzGerald, AP****THE BRIDGE OFFICERS**

- **Commander**

Cdr Louis Harlow, JN
Cdr@cbsps.org
321-243-4869

- **Executive Officer**

Lt/C John FitzGerald, AP
XO@cbsps.org
321-446-6714

- **Squadron Education Officer**

P/C Sandra Schoonmaker, SN
SEO@cbsps.org
321-241-4002

- **Administrative Officer**

Lt/C Tom Courtney, AP
AO@cbsps.org
407-276-6893

- **Secretary**

Lt/C Theresa FitzGerald, AP
Secretary@cbsps.org
321-446-6716

- **Treasurer**

Lt/C George Shapow, S
Treasurer@cbsps.org
585-738-0437

Happy Birthday to all born in the Summer.

P/R/C Carmen Adame, JN

P/D/C Fred P. Adame, SN

Jocelyn K. Baldrige

P/C Edward W. Bonnett, SN

Debra Burluson, S

Michael Cannon, S

Lt. Jose Casals, S

Aaron Dumont

P/Lt/C Marilyn Flanigan, P

Sidney Gay

Michael Glynn, S

Margaret N. Guerrero, S

Kathy Harlow

Sandra K. Hazlett, S

John A. Hedegaard, P

Lt. David D. Keane, JN

Steven L. Keyes, S

Gloria Kimmel

Lt. Marsha E. Kirkwood, S

P/C Susan L. Kneeland, SN

P/C Edward M. Kydd, SN

Genevieve Link, AP

Lt. J.P. Longway III, P

Cody McCoy

Trent S Milliken, P

Lorraine Morell

Lt. John F. Mulkey, AP

Patricia Page

Francesca Ragusa, AP

Carol Ramsey

Lt/C Sandra Schoonmaker, SN

Pamela P. Scott

Leonard T. Senibaldi, SN

Dean Spanos

Lt. Marian H. Sweigart, AP

P/D/C Lester R. Tribout, SN

Lt. Doris Valentine

Donald R. Weir

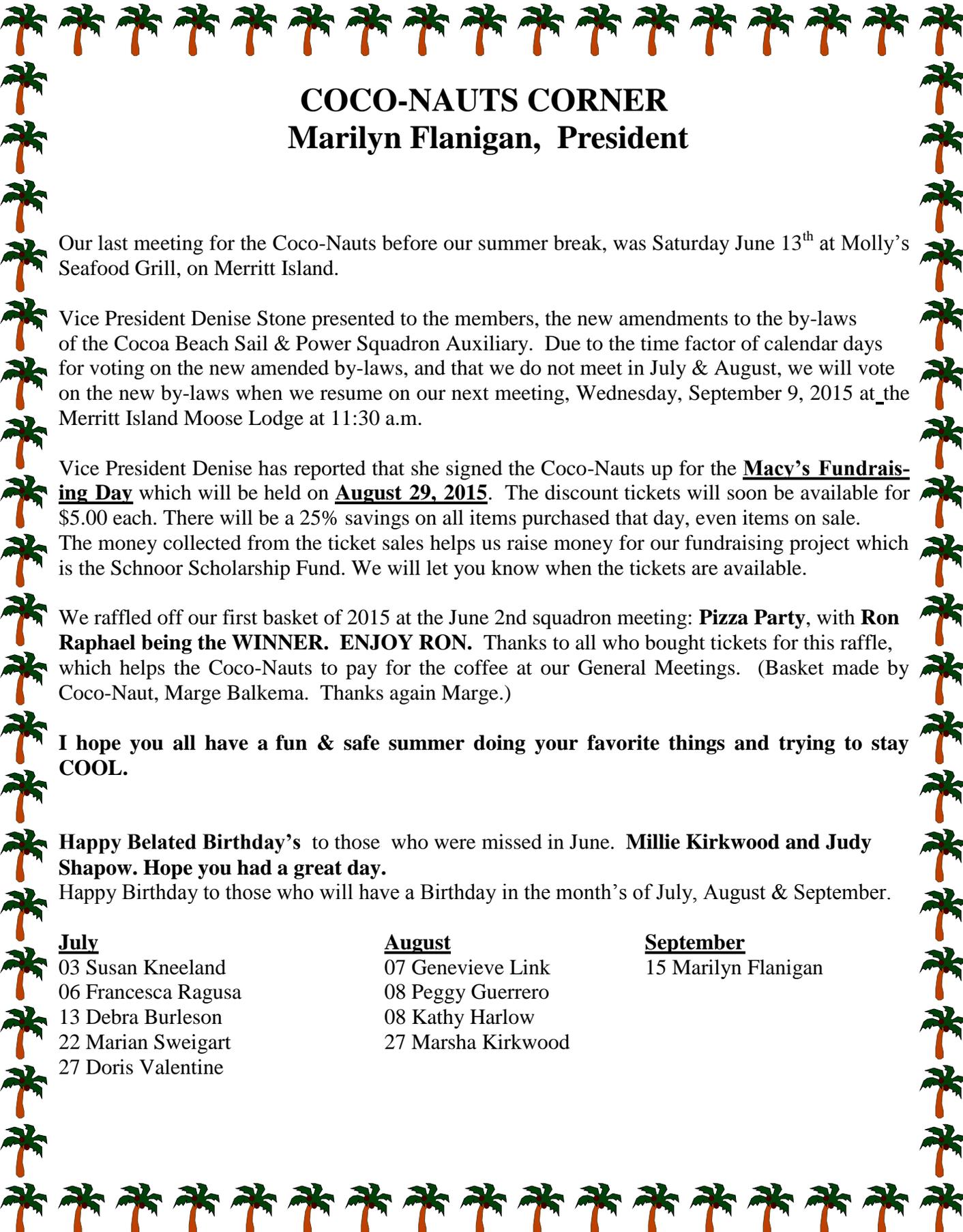
I

If you have any changes to your e-mail, phone, address, etc. please send them to me at:

Secretary@cbsps.org

Thank you

To all, have a safe, healthy and happy summer!



COCO-NAUTS CORNER

Marilyn Flanigan, President

Our last meeting for the Coco-Nauts before our summer break, was Saturday June 13th at Molly's Seafood Grill, on Merritt Island.

Vice President Denise Stone presented to the members, the new amendments to the by-laws of the Cocoa Beach Sail & Power Squadron Auxiliary. Due to the time factor of calendar days for voting on the new amended by-laws, and that we do not meet in July & August, we will vote on the new by-laws when we resume on our next meeting, Wednesday, September 9, 2015 at the Merritt Island Moose Lodge at 11:30 a.m.

Vice President Denise has reported that she signed the Coco-Nauts up for the **Macy's Fundraising Day** which will be held on **August 29, 2015**. The discount tickets will soon be available for \$5.00 each. There will be a 25% savings on all items purchased that day, even items on sale.

The money collected from the ticket sales helps us raise money for our fundraising project which is the Schnoor Scholarship Fund. We will let you know when the tickets are available.

We raffled off our first basket of 2015 at the June 2nd squadron meeting: **Pizza Party**, with **Ron Raphael being the WINNER. ENJOY RON.** Thanks to all who bought tickets for this raffle, which helps the Coco-Nauts to pay for the coffee at our General Meetings. (Basket made by Coco-Naut, Marge Balkema. Thanks again Marge.)

I hope you all have a fun & safe summer doing your favorite things and trying to stay COOL.

Happy Belated Birthday's to those who were missed in June. **Millie Kirkwood and Judy Shapow. Hope you had a great day.**

Happy Birthday to those who will have a Birthday in the month's of July, August & September.

July

03 Susan Kneeland
06 Francesca Ragusa
13 Debra Burleson
22 Marian Sweigart
27 Doris Valentine

August

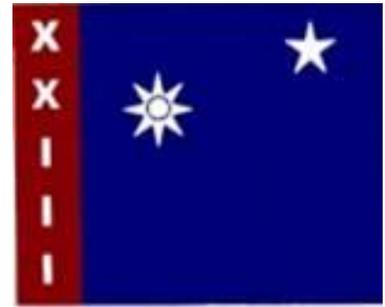
07 Genevieve Link
08 Peggy Guerrero
08 Kathy Harlow
27 Marsha Kirkwood

September

15 Marilyn Flanigan



GALAXY
D23 Newsletter
Roy Merritt, SN-IN
Commander



Greetings everyone.

We have just held our 2015 Spring Conference hosted by Central Florida Sail & Power Squadron. What an excellent weekend we had. I am sure no one that went on the boat trip on Friday night will ever forget that experience, especially the Jello shots. My heartfelt thanks to Team Gibbs for putting together a fun and unforgettable weekend.

We held our Change of Watch and I feel honored and humbled by the trust which you have placed in me to lead our District over the coming year. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank P/C William 'Bill' Fehr, N for handing over a District with Squadrons that are healthy and becoming more creative in their approach to recruitment and member retention. I am hopeful this upward trend will continue and spread to all our Squadrons.

My goals for the coming year are simple, help where we can to add value to what the Squadrons are already doing both to promote themselves and to make United States Power Squadrons become a more visible and relevant organization for boating education in their respective communities.

National have developed a toolkit to help us with our advertising and branding, but certainly I think no one would disagree that one of the best ways we can accomplish more visibility and relevancy for our Squadrons is through, as Cdr Bob Ray put it "walking the talk." Practicing what we teach (and preach), having more on-the-water activities and proudly flying our colors. Be the leaders and set an example of how to have fun on the water in a safe and responsible way. I know that there are many competing specialist clubs, but I believe we are still second to none in our boating education programs. Let's demonstrate that on the water.

To assist the Squadrons in their education efforts, we have discussed, at Bridge level, bringing back the annual Education seminar. I have asked Bud Newton, our DEO, to organize such a seminar, so watch this space for updates.

Many members have also expressed an interest in having a more detailed look at the work that the Central Florida Squadron team undertook to increase their membership. They have become a more vibrant and relevant boating organization in the face of stiff competition, in the Central Florida area. I will be working with our District Bridge team and Cdr Bob Ray to coordinate a seminar which Cdr Ray has kindly offered to facilitate.

I am looking forward to our journey over the next year in which we can grow as an organization, become more visible and relevant in our communities and have a great time doing it.

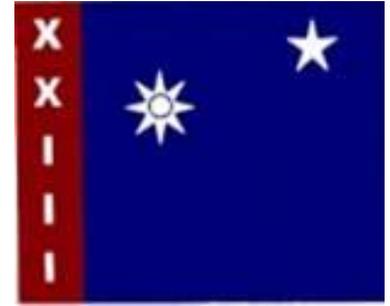
Yours in Safe Boating.



GALAXY

D23 Newsletter

**Mark Adams, SN
Executive Officer**



Greetings from the D23 executive department. As Roy mentioned in his report the New Year is off to a great start. Spring weather is upon us and as I cross the St. Johns River daily I am seeing more and more boating activity. This is an opportunity for us to be good ambassadors of boating safety and offer advice or help. It's also an opportunity for the squadron vessel examiners to not only ensure vessels on the water are safe but to promote United States Power Squadrons through conversation with boat owners during vessel examinations. By the way, have you had your boat examined this year? If not, contact one of your squadron vessel safety examiners.

Upcoming Events:

Mark your calendar and make plans for the D23 picnic May 9, 2015 hosted by the Titusville Sail and Power Squadron. This is a one-day event well worth the travel (even from Jacksonville). This year the Titusville Squadron will be serving breakfast for those helping set up for the event. The event begins with the cardboard boat race and games. Is anyone going to challenge Titusville or Central Florida? Following a fantastic picnic lunch, winners of door prizes and raffle items are announced.

SAFE BOATING WEEK is May 16-22. What has your squadron planned for the week to promote safe boating?

Plans are also being made for a casino cruise August 1st.

More information will be forthcoming. Watch your email and Sail Angle.

P/C Earl Gillespie, D23 "Public Relations Officer received information from Poverty Bay Squadron he wants to share with all boaters. **Kidde is recalling millions of disposable fire extinguishers with plastic valves.** Nearly 5 million Kidde fire extinguishers sold over the past two years are being recalled because a defective valve could cause them to fail when used to put out a fire. You can tell if your fire extinguisher is on the recall list: They are red, white or silver. The recalled extinguishers are either "ABC" or "BC" rated. Those ratings are marked on the right side of the nameplate. The date of manufacture will be between July 23, 2013 and Oct. 15, 2014 and is marked with a 10-digit date code on the side of the cylinder, near the bottom. Digits five through nine represent the day and year of manufacture in DDDYY format. Date codes for recalled units manufactured in 2013 are XXXX 20413 X through XXXX 36513 X and 2014 are XXXX 00114 X through XXXX 28814 X.

A full list of recalled models can be found Consumer Product Safety Commission web site:

<http://www.cpsc.gov/en/Recalls/2015/Kidde-Recalls-Disposable-Plastic-Fire-Extinguishers/>

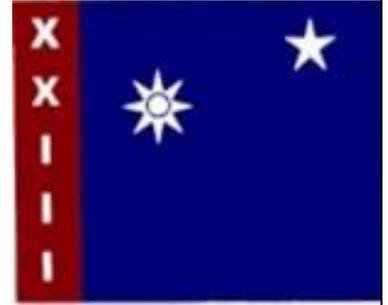
Yours in Safe Boating,



GALAXY

D23 Newsletter

**Bud Newton, SN-CN
Education Officer**



WHAT'S YOUR REWARD?

How to find it!! That's Navigation!! On the water, on the road, or on the web.
We teach how to use a GPS for two of the three obstacles, but what about the web?

The United States Power Squadrons web site (<http://www.usps.org/index.html/>) can provide information for Non-Members pertaining to Boating Courses; How to Join USPS; and many other helpful items. The site provides members with the latest News items and buttons to access much more information about events/activities and News. Departments, Committees... have access buttons at the top of the page.

What about the District? District 23 has a web site (<http://www.uspsd23.org/>) with information directed towards the local squadrons. In the "Resources" area you can find the District Bylaws and other interesting items, *especially* D23 Awards Manual.

All Squadron Commanders, Squadron Education Officers... in fact the whole Bridge and Executive Committee should be familiar with the contents!

The Bridge and Executive com's job is to advance their organization. A part of which is recognition of achievement by their members.

Local recognition is extremely important, and District recognition is a higher level, and in some categories leads to National competition.

BUT no one will be aware of your "super member's" activities, unless you read the D23 Awards Manual and submit your applicants to the district! Don't wait till the "cut-off" date, get a head start. Involve the entire bridge in the narratives.

Let's celebrate and promote our "Super Members"... Review the D23 Awards Manual... Let's nominate them for District Awards! Go for a winner!

DEO Bud Newton CN-SN
day_break@comcast.net

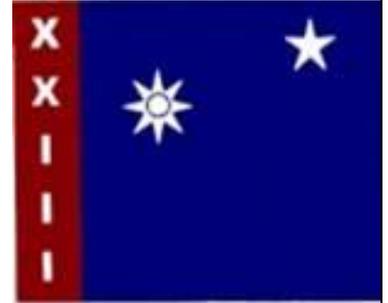
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GALAXY

D23 Newsletter

Gerard Meunier, SN-CN
Administrative Officer



As most of you probably know, your District Admin Officer is “**Out There, Doing It**”. This is written from the Erie Canal where we will spend June, and then it’ll be the Rideau Canal in July. Those interested in the details of this voyage can look at www.cathousetrip.blogspot.com which is updated as Wi-Fi connections permit.

There is quite nothing like such trips to highlight the great need for the USPS mission to “promote recreational boating safety through education and civic activities while providing fellowship to our members”.

For the next decade or so, many people will retire and finally get that boat they could not afford because of the kids tuitions. So, our emphasis should be on **Recruiting** new members into our ranks. Some might say “it’s the Membership Committee’s job” or “it’s every member’s job”. I like to suggest a different multidepartment “**Task Force**”.

First, we need “**Tools**” such as brochures explaining who we are, what we do and why people should join; an updated and informative website; business cards; calendar of events; flyers; etc. Let me know if you need samples; there is no need to reinvent the wheel. We are here to help you.

Second, we need “**Venues**” such as ABC3 or other classes or seminars, boat shows, safety shows, high schools, employers, etc. I hope you open your classes to non-members (a 50% premium over member cost is a nice incentive to become a member).

Third, we need “**Participants**”, namely all of our members to get involved in one or more of this grand scheme; not just the usual dozen or so who do most of the work. Many hands make light work!!!

Then, let’s make sure that all Participants carry the Tools to the Venues and at all times. I always carry brochures and business cards; you will need them in the most unanticipated places. The vessel examiners, the instructors, the boat show attendants, the officers, the committee chairs, all need them.

This is a long term program but you may already have many of the pieces in place. Two of our 8 squadrons have done it successfully and the District Officers stand ready to help in any way possible.

Let’s do this!!!

Gerard Meunier, SN-CN
 321-412-5106 (text preferred).

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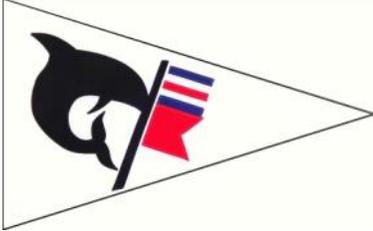
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**Summer
2015
Issue**

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10TH of March, June, September & December



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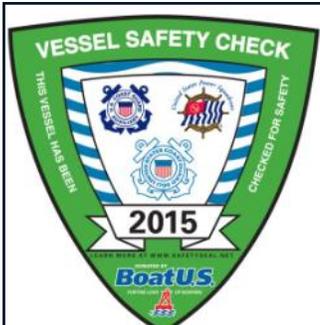
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