

Official Publication of the Cocoa Beach Power Squadron – A Unit of the United States Power Squadron ® District 23 Sail & Power Boating

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There'll be a hot time in the old town at the Tuesday 02 December meeting. There'll not be a guest speaker, but there will be do-it-yourself entertainment. Let's each bring appetizers and our favorite beverages, and loosen up your vocal cords for a good old-fashioned sing-along.



l.to r. Mark Anderson, Patricia Olney, Michelle A.

### PATRICIA OLNEY, MARITIME LEGAL ATTORNEY INTERESTING GUEST SPEAKER

Patricia K. Olney, a prominent Marine and Admiralty attorney, is licensed to practice in this newly created legal branch. Her topic was "Marine Law— Things You Never Knew". She addressed the Squadron at the 04 November meeting and spoke humorously and seriously during her presentation.

Admiralty, or maritime law, consists of the rules and principles- derived from custom, judicial decisions, legisla-

tive enactments and international treaties-that govern the legal relationships arising from the transportation of passengers and cargoes on the high seas and other navigable waters. Appropriate tribunals apply maritime law in matters involving maritime contracts, maritime torts and other maritime offenses. The principal parties affected by the law of admiralty are the crew, the ship owner, the cargo owner, the charterer and the marine insurer. Among matters which fall within the admiralty jurisdiction are suits arising from collisions at sea, salvage claims and, increasingly, from marine pollution. Certain recreational boating activities may fall within admiralty jurisdiction if certain criteria are met. The bulk of maritime law, however, secreted in the interstices of business practice, mostly exists to deal with legal problems arising within the sea transport industry.

### Our Congratulations

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Sherman, recently married. Congratulations, too, to Susan and John Lynn, parents of the bride. They are unsung heroes, having put in hours of work for the Auction and hours of preparation for daughter Patty's wedding.

John and Susan can really relax now.

See you at the Holiday Dance on December 6.

It should be tres' elegant.



### THE AUCTION A GREAT SUCCESS THANKS TO EFFORTS OF MANY

John Lynn Auction Chairman

The auction is over for this year and was a booming success, earning \$5,716.83. Yes, that's five thousand, seven hundred, sixteen dollars and 83 cents IN THE SQUADRON BANK ACCOUNT. Awesome! My thanks to all those who helped make it such a success, those who either solicited donations, stored donated items, prepared paper work or drove to collect donations, and about 15 others who performed important functions during the auction. Stellar jobs, well done. Thanks also to those who bid and those who bought. In lieu of helping with the auction, members are welcome to donate cash to the CBPS coffer. The cost of renting classrooms and meeting rooms, the cost of postage, of miscellaneous handling costs, printing costs, and the many miscellaneous costs that occur are not covered by your dues alone.

The business card size ads of those who contributed merchandise for the auction should be ready for publication in next month's Soundings. I hope all CBPS members will strive, throughout the next year, to patronize those businesses.

*John Lynn*

**The CBPS thanks all those who so generously contributed to the Squadron Auction. Their ads will appear in the next Soundings issue.**

## THE COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Cdr Richard Fille, AP

### THE BRIDGE

#### Commander

Cdr 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 Tribout, 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.

Email:  
[Soundngs@cfl.rr.com](mailto:Soundngs@cfl.rr.com)

#### Editor:

Lt Rhoda Bernbaum  
452-0320

#### Co-editor:

Lt/C Howard Bernbaum, SN

#### Advertising Collections

Lt. Duane L. McConkey, P

#### Advertising Sales

P/C John B. Valentine, AP

Lt. Joseph Auchter, AP

#### Chairman, Distribution

Lt. Paul Pfadenhauer

#### Photographer

Lt. Trent S. Milliken, P

I attended the Titusville Power Squadron Rendezvous/Cookout at the Kennedy Point Yacht Club and the next day attended our Harvest Fest put on by the Coco-Nauts. Two things stood out in my mind. One, it was great to see so many CBPS members up at Titusville. Especially gratifying was the number of our members who went up by boat. There were many first timers there and several that seemed like first timers to me --- they were really veterans of many cruises, but it was the first time I have seen them on their boats since I joined the squadron. That was very encouraging to see the span of boaters attending. In addition, many came by car which gave us a bigger representation than Titusville at THEIR gathering.

If you have been hesitant to use your boat because you think only veteran cruisers go to these events, take heart from this experience. Many newcomers braved the trip and enjoyed it. You can do it too. Remember, this is not a club designed for monthly meetings. This is a club designed for education, travel/boating and social gatherings (built around food, fun and frolic). Next time you see a boating activity, join in.

The second thing that stood out was the excellent attendance we had at the Harvest Party. We had many new, or fairly new, members who were welcomed by the other members. In the recent past it seemed like most of our parties were filled



by a high percentage of Past Commanders. It's fun to see the newer faces appearing and breathing new spirit into our events.

Thanks to Randy Johnson for our great turnout at Titusville and to the many Coco-Nauts that planned and arranged the Harvest Party.

I also want to give Marilyn Flanigan a thank you for promoting the food drive for the Sharing Center. Her involvement produced results for a very worthy cause.

One more super thank you goes to John Lynn, Susan Lynn and the people who worked with them to make our auction tremendously successful. I think it was the record for money raised. John's early organization for solicitation prospects, the efforts of the solicitors and the final organization of the event bore the fruit of success. Susan was very instrumental in the smooth flow of the auctioning process. As a side comment, Susan is now an active cruiser on their new sailboat (she really likes this one), so John has a cocktail and cooking companion on our cruises.

As we enter into this Holiday Season, Penny and I hope that you all have an enjoyable time. As you add to the lives of others may your life be spiritually fulfilled.

### Cdr Dick Fille



D/C Robert Flint AP from Seminole Squadron



Frank Murphy



Howard Bernbaum



Frank Murphy

Our thanks to the Titusville Power Squadron. We all had a real good time.

## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Lt / Marion A. Miller, JN

All I can say about the results of our auction this week is...Awesome Baby! Many thank yous go out to our auction chairmen, Lt. John Lynn and Susan Lynn, assisted by P/D/Lt./C Frank Sebree Jane Sebree and P/C George Hess who planned and organized the event, and a long list of volunteers who solicited donations, picked up items and worked during auction night. Another "job well done" accolade also goes out to our volunteer aucioneer Mr. Bill Suggs who was splendid that evening did his usual outstanding job.

We are also deeply appreciative of Mr. David Spain who again donated the use of the Comfort Inn in Cocoa Beach. Everyone who attended seemed to be having a fun time bidding against each other. We all left with a feeling of having gotten a good bargain( whether needed or not), and also having helped CBPS raise needed funds.

The end of the year is fast approaching. The highlight for the month of December definitely has to be the Holiday Dinner/Dance which will be held at the Radisson Hotel in Cape Canaveral on Saturday evening, December 6. The price is reasonable and includes our own private band to play our favorite music. Make your reservations early, but no later than the December meeting. This is an opportunity for the guys and ladies to get dressed up, kick back and enjoy a fun evening of dinner, dancing and socializing with friends. More about it to appear in another section of the Soundings.

Also during December, P/D/C Fred Adame will teach an Operations Training class. This is a class of short duration that is intended to familiarize members with how the Power Squadron functions, and there is no charge or exam for the class. Contact Fred at 635-9455 to sign up.

Looking ahead to next year, mark your calendar for a Coral Bay Restaurant Lunch rendezvous on January 24, 2004. Coral Bay is located in the Intra-coatal Marina always been a popular event. You can come by boat or auto.

Currently, the Change of Watch is scheduled for Sunday, February 29, 2004. Several different locations are being considered which will soon be finalized.

First Mate Judy and I wish all a Happy Holiday season and smooth cruising.

**Lt/C Bud Miller, JN**

## SEO REPORT

Lt/C Howard Bernbaum, SN

October was a busy month. Five students signed up for Instructor Development with four taking the exam and passing. The fifth student was out of town and will take the exam soon. Thank you Sandy Schoonmaker SN for doing such a good job teaching the course.

Cruise Planning also came to a close with all 8 students taking the exam. We are waiting the results. We thank Al Pappas SN for again taking on the responsibility for teaching Cruise Planning. Al brings his special personality to the course and it makes for an interesting class.

The Weather Course started November 10 with Rick Schoonmaker SN at the podium. While this is not the easiest course offered, everybody who does their boating in this area should take the Weather Course. Our weather is extremely variable ranging from flat calm to Hurricane. A knowledge of weather and the ability to read its signals could just save your life.

We are planning to start the Advanced Piloting course in February. If we can get a group of 5 or more we will set up any of the courses the membership need. We have not had a Seamanship class since last April and the new members do need it. Likewise, a Piloting class is needed. Contact me SEO-Howard Bernbaum SN or the Assistant SEO Les Tribout AP and we will make arrangements to accommodate you.

Next year we are planning to offer two 8 week Public Boating Courses. The first will start the first Thursday in March and the second will begin September 16. The purpose of the long course is twofold. First, it actually teaches the public a lot about boating and covers topics that simply are skipped over in the short course. Second, it gives the public a better opportunity to know us and what we do. We expect to get more new members this way, and members who will jump right in and become active with CBPS. The only way to get something from an organization is to put something into the organization.

*The roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet.*

-- Aristotle

## HONOR ROLL

The following students passed Instructor Development:  
Duane Balkema AP; Donal Bryant AP; John Lynn P; and John Mulkey P

While all did very well, Donal got a perfect score. **What a class!**



## Education Department Planning

Pictured above are Lt John Mulkey P, 1lt/Garry Pell P, P/C Fred Adame SN and John Schmidt, a fairly recent member. CBPS is happy to have him aboard.

## Scheduling of Future Courses Boat Show Chairman

P/C Larry Hatfield, SN

CBPS had a busy day at the Space Center on the 15th of October at two locations. At one we had a table display promoting our March 2004 Boating Course as well as answering the many questions presented to us by the large number of employees passing by. There is certainly a gold mine of students available. Our thanks to P/C/Lt/C Frank Sebree, SN, Lt/C Bud Miller, AP and Lt Joe Auchter, AP for their assistance.

At the second location P/D/C Fred Adame, SN and P/C Duane Balkema, AP presented The National Safe Boating Test to a group of people and of course lectured on the importance of taking a safe boating course

A number of Boating Course prospects were signed up at both locations.

P/

**C Larry Hatfield, SN**

# COCOA BEACH POWER SQUADRON NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

November IO, 2003

. In accordance with the BYLAWS OF COCOA BEACH POWER SQUADRON, INC.'and those of UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS, the following members in good-standing are nominated as indicated. All have been inter-viewed and are willing to serve.

## BRIDGE

Commander Lt/C	Marion (Bud) Miller JN
Executive Officer	Lt. John F. Mulkey P
Educational Officer	OPEN
Administrative Officer	OPEN
Secretary	Sandy Schoonmaker SN
Treasurer	Lt/C Raymond C. Smith
Ass't. Educational Officer	1/Lt Gary B Pell Sr. P
Ass't. Secretary	Collette (Joan) Montfort
Ass't. Treasurer	1/Lt Lea Collins, P

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors consists of the above bridge members plus the following:

P/C Richard D. Fille, AP #	John Lynn, P *
P/C George Hess, SN	Lt Marilyn Flanigan, P

(\* Member-at-Large (#) Immediate Past commander and Member-at-Large

## ELECTED COMMITTEES

### **Rules Committee**

Chairman	Lt Joseph S. Auchter
Asst. Chairman 2 Yrs	David P. Collins AP
Member ship 3 Yrs.	P/C Duane L. Balkema AP

### **Nominating Committee**

Chairman	Lt Lloyd McGavin SN
Asst. Chairman, 2 Yrs.	Michael A. Stone P
Member 3 Yrs	Susan L. Kneeland SN

### **Auditing Committee**

Chairman	Lt Lloyd McGavin
Asst. Chairman, 2 Yrs	P/Lt /Michael A. Stone
Member 3 yrs.	P/C Duane L. Balkema

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Franklin L. Sebree SN*

Franklin L Sebree SN  
Chairman

*John B. Valentine*  
P/C John B. Valentine AP

*Larry C. Hatfield*  
P/C Larry . Hatfield SN

### **Cocoa Beach Power Squadron Auxiliary Nominating Committee Report**

The following people have con-sented to serve as the new Board of Officers for the year 2004-2005 to be voted on January 14, 2004.

President-----Barbara Millner  
Vice President----Lorraine Pell  
Secretary-----Marian Swiegart  
Treasurer----- Doris Valentine

**Members-at-Large**  
Joan Montfort  
Evelyn Tribout  
Angie Vilardebo

*Respectively submitted by,  
Marilyn Flanigan  
Joan Montfort  
Jane Schnoor*

**Thanks to the nominating commit-  
tee for a job well done.**

*A group becomes a team when all members are sure enough of themselves and their contribution to praise the skills of the other. Anon.*



*Merry  
Christmas  
to all*

*George & Genevieve Link*



*We are as near to  
heaven by sea as  
by land. May you  
know peace.*

*Ed and Helen  
Kydd*

**'TIS THE  
SEASON TO  
BE JOLLY...**

*Rick and Sandy  
Schoonmaker*



A toast to my CBPS friends  
for the holiday season.



Cdr Duck (I mean  
Dick) and Penny  
Fille

## THE HARVEST PARTY - WHEN GOOD FRIENDS GOT-TOGETHER

If you weren't able to attend the annual Harvest Party hosted by the Coco-Nauts, you missed a wonderful meal and that great Power Squadron camaraderie. Members of the Coco-Nauts decorated the tables, made the coffee, cooked and sliced the hams, provided the many dishes to compliment the meal, purchased the wine, beer and paper products, and cleaned up!

Whew! We appreciated the help of several husbands who were pressed into service for various jobs, and we give a special thanks to Gary Kingrea who was unable to stay for the dinner, but made a special trip to set up the tables for us. Thank you to EVERYONE who helped make this another outstanding and fun event!



The Harvest Fest gathering of the CBPS.

Appetizers, beverages, and friendly conversation were the order of the day on the Veterans Memorial Center patio at the Harvest Party followed by a mouth-watering baked ham dinner and tasty side dishes and desserts provided by the Coco-Naut gourmet chefs.

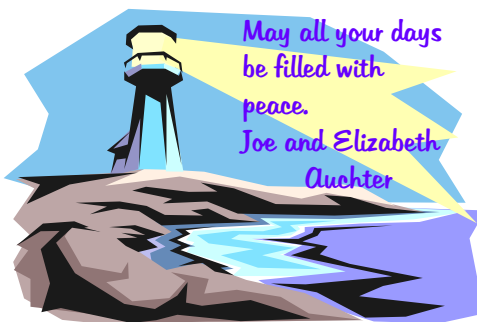
Peace and good  
will toward all.



The Millers-  
Bud & Judy



To all, from  
the Bridge



May all your days  
be filled with  
peace.  
Joe and Elizabeth  
Auehter

OH WHAT FUN IT IS TO SURF  
ON A ONE HORSE OPEN SKI

Pam and Randy  
Johnson



Be happy! Be festive! Be well!  
Happy holidays

Al and Maggie

Merry Christmas,  
to all our Power  
Squadron friends



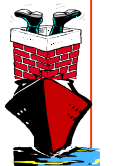
Carmen and Fred Adame and  
Mary



WE WISH YOU A  
VERY MERRY  
HOLIDAY WITH  
LOTS OF GOOD  
CHEER AND  
GOOD HEALTH.

Les and Evelyn  
Tribout

WITH A CLATTER  
HOOFs APPEARED  
ON THE BRIDGE, AND  
SANTA DROPPED  
IN WITH A HO, HO, HO TO  
ALL.



Gary and Lorraine Pell

## CBPS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### DECEMBER

#### 02 Tuesday CBPS 1900-2100

General meeting Vet. Mem. Center  
Sing-Along and Friendship

#### 06 Saturday 1800 Cash Bar 1900 Dinner

Holiday Dinner Dance Radisson Hotel

#### 10 Wednesday 11:30 Chowder's

Coco-Naut's Christmas Luncheon

#### 23 Tuesday 1900

CBPS Executive Meeting  
Veterans Memorial center

On each Wednesday many Squadron members meet for lunch t 1130 at the Moon Hut for lunch and fellowship. The restaurant is located on AIA in Cape Canaveral. All Squadron members and their guests are welcome.

#### CHAPLAIN'S REPORT

by Denise Stone, P



Please keep the families of following members in your prayers and thoughts:

Past CBPS member: Glen Hoskins died on 9/10/03

Charter member: Pennock B. Bowen, AP died on 8/03

Please keep the following CBPS members who are dealing with health challenges in your prayers, also:

Jay Martin, AP and P/C Ron Bond,JN

Twenty years from now, you'll be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did do.

So throw off the bowlines;

Sail away from the safe harbour.

Catch the trade winds in your sails.

Explore.

Dream.

Discover.

Mark Twain



### JANUARY 2004

#### 06 Tuesday 1900—2100

General meeting.

#### 10 Saturday

District 23 Winter Council Meeting  
Smyrna Yacht Club

#### 14-18

USPS Annual Meeting Orlando  
Rosen Center Orlando

#### 24 Saturday 1130

Coral Bay Luncheon  
Come by land or by sea.  
It's always enjoyable.



#### 27 Tuesday 1900-2100

Executive Meeting  
Veterans Memorial Center

#### ARIZONA MEMORIAL



Oil droplets bubble to the surface of Pearl Harbor above the USS Arizona, creating a vivid link to the past. On a quiet Sunday morning December 7, 1941 a Japanese surprise air attack left the Pacific Fleet in smoldering heaps of broken, twisted steel. Here, peace was interrupted and paradise lost. In hours, 2,390 futures were stolen, half of these casualties from the battleship Arizona.

Behind the shadows of destroyed airfields, aircraft, and ships, America fought fear, and a determined enemy responding with an unrivaled war effort. An epic battle for democratic ideals and world freedom would bloody the fields of Europe and the islands of the Pacific over the next four years.

The USS Arizona Memorial as a national shrine symbolizes American sacrifice and resolve. Through national tragedy, a "sleeping giant awoke" and the United States moved towards its destiny as a global power.

*Material taken from the Web.*



December 6  
Holiday  
Dinner  
Dance

For late reservations please call  
I/Lt Agnes Bond AP: 452-6865

There might be available space.

#### Menu

Chicken Marsala \$23.00

Prime Ribs of Beef Au Jus \$28.00

Grouper \$28.00 served with salad  
and desert.

Tax and gratuities included.

On Dec 3 at 7 pm there will be a Captain's meeting. You must participate to have your boat included in the 12/13/02 Boat Parade. For information call Chairman Walt Blaser: 783-1207 727-6729 or Commodore Collins 784-1304

#### Dec. 13

6 - 10 P.M. - Holiday Boat Parade  
(Info: 783-1207, 727-6729, or 784-1304.) Boats to assemble at Marker 101, Off. S.R. 520 at 5:00 P.M.

The Andersons, Mark and Michelle, will run Holiday Parade Tours on their boat, "Blue Dolphin." for the Cocoa Beach HolidayParade at S.R. 520 (Indian River), Dec. 13 and the Merritt Island Sykes Creek Boat Parade, Saturday Dec.20th. The charge will be \$20.00 per person which will include wine, beer, bottled water, and eggnog.

Call Space River Tours:  
321-652-1052 for details.

#### MIAMI BOAT SHOW SATURDAY FEB.14. CHARTER BUS COST \$25.00

Each year Dave Whaley arranges a chartered bus, the destination the Miami Beach Boat Show. Saturday the 14th is the date. COST IS \$25.00 for bus fare.

#### FOR TICKETS CONTACT:

DAVE WHALEY

783-7975



# DISTRICT 23 WINTER COUNCIL MEETING

**Date:** Saturday, January 10, 2004

**Location:** Elks Club, North Causeway, New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169

**Schedule:** 0900-1000 Coffee, orange juice, donuts Bridge Meeting  
 1000-1200 Department meetings, workshops to be determined

Current and incoming Bridge officers should attend

1200-1300 Lunch

1300-1530 Council Meeting

**Directions:** From I-95, Exit 249, Highway 44, New Smyrna Beach, East (for info only-Deland is west) Turn left on to Business 44 (landmark-Big K on right just before intersection) Name will change to Canal St. Follow this to Intracoastal. Turn left (this will be Riverside Dr). Turn right at next traffic light (this will be North Causeway). About 300 yards on the left you will see an Elks sign, back from the road a large blue roofed building. This is the Elks Club. Enter at door under the car roofed area. (If you crossed the Intracoastal you have gone too far)

Reservation forms and complete information appeared in the November Soundings. Conferences are usually fun as well as work.

**WITH A CLATTER  
 HOOFS APPEARED ON  
 THE BRIDGE, AND  
 SANTA DROPPED IN  
 WITH A HO, HO, HO TO ALL.**



Dick and Jane Schnoor



**While flyin' around  
 I thought  
 I'd wish everyone  
 a merry Christmas.**

George & Doris  
 Hess



**WITH A CLATTER  
 HOOFS APPEARED  
 ON THE BRIDGE,  
 AND SANTA DROPPED  
 IN WITH A HO, HO, HO TO  
 ALL.**



Gary & Joann Monai

**I'm sailing along singing  
 this song- "Merry  
 Christmas" to you.**

Brian and Marilyn  
 Grigsby



## Welcome Aboard , New Members:



J. P. Longway III, Donna L. Longway, William E. Bagwell, Jr., Rose Marie Bagwell, Mark Allan Casburn, Peter Frank Collett, Additional Active Member -Sylvia Ann Smith, James F. Wonnell, additional Active Member—and also a member of the Coco-Nauts- Edith B. Wonnell (Edie), and Paul D. Whitney A122098 who transferred from the Banana River Squadron. Information for roster addition pg.9

**By becoming active in the Squadron you will further your boating education and meet some very nice folks .Please join with us in our educational and civic activities. We can make safe boating a reality.**

*Our family traditions have special meaning to us as we celebrate the holiday season.*



*Peace on Earth,  
 Good will  
 toward men.*

Marian Sweigert

**Happy Holidays  
 to all**

The Bernbaums,  
 Rhoda and Howard



**'TIS THE  
 SEASON TO  
 BE JOLLY...**



Bob and Marilyn Flanigan

## A CONDENSED HISTORY OF THREE HOLIDAYS CELEBRATED DECEMBER 2003

### Chanukah, the Festival of Lights, Begins Sunset, December 21 Ends Sunset, December 28

Long ago in the land of Judea there was a Syrian king, Antiochus. The king ordered the Jewish people to reject their G-d, their religion, their customs and their beliefs and to worship the Roman gods. There were some who did as they were told, but many refused. One who refused was Judah Maccabee

Judah and his four brothers formed an army and chose as their name the word "Maccabee", which means hammer. After three years of fighting, the Maccabees were finally successful in driving the Syrians out of Israel and reclaimed the Temple in Jerusalem. The Maccabees wanted to clean the building and to remove the hated Roman symbols and statues. On the 25th day of the month of Kislev, the job was finished and the temple was rededicated

When Judah and his followers finished cleaning the temple, they wanted to light the eternal light, known as the *N'er Tamid*, which is present in every Jewish house of worship. Once lit, the oil lamp should never be extinguished, but they found a tiny jug of oil with just enough for a single day. The oil lamp was filled, lit, and miraculously, the tiny amount of oil stayed lit not for one day, but for eight days

Jews celebrate Chanukah to mark the victory over the Syrians and the rededication of the Jerusalem Temple. More importantly they regained their ability to worship as Jews. The Festival of the Lights, Chanukah, lasts for eight days to commemorate the miracle of the oil. The word Chanukah means "rededication"

In America, families celebrate Chanukah at home. They give and receive gifts, decorate the house, entertain friends and family, eat special foods, and light the holiday menorah

### U.S. CELEBRATIONS



### Christmas, The Birth of Christ—December 25

To avoid persecution during the Roman pagan festival, early Christians decked their homes with Saturnalia holly. As Christian numbers increased and their customs prevailed, the celebrations took on a Christian observance. But the early church actually did not celebrate the birth of Christ in December until Telesphorus, who was the second Bishop of Rome from 125 to 136AD, declared that Church services should be held during this time to celebrate "The Nativity of our Lord and Saviour." However, since no-one was quite sure in which month Christ was born, Nativity was often held in September, which was during the Jewish Feast of Trumpets (modern-day Rosh Hashanah). In fact, for more than 300 years, people observed the birth of Jesus on various dates.

There is a vast amount of history on the web about the evolution of Christmas as we know it today. You can find it by searching for its history.

In 325AD, Constantine the Great, the first Christian Roman emperor, introduced Christmas as an immovable feast on 25 December. He also introduced Sunday as a holy day in a new 7-day week, and introduced movable feasts (Easter). In 354 AD, Bishop Liberius of Rome officially ordered his members to celebrate the birth of Jesus on 25 December. However, many recognized that date as a pagan festival, so Christmas failed

The popularity of Christmas was spurred on in 1820 by Washington Irving's book, The Keeping of Christmas at Bracebridge Hall. In 1834, Britain's Queen Victoria brought her German husband, Prince Albert, into Windsor Castle. He introduced the tradition of the Christmas tree and carols that were held in Europe to the British Empire.

A week before Christmas in 1834, Charles Dickens published A Christmas Carol. Clement Moore introduced The Night Before Christmas. Both were so popular that neither churches or governments ignored the importance of festive Christmas celebrations. See more on the web.

### Kwanzaa, a fast growing holiday, as described on Internet links.

This year, more than 20 million people are expected to celebrate Kwanzaa, a non-religious event honoring African-American culture and community. The holiday was created in 1966 by Maulana Ron Karenga, an African-American scholar and activist. Discouraged by the civil rights struggles of the 1960's and dismayed by the 1965 Watts riots, Karenga based the ceremonies of Kwanzaa around the belief that lasting social change for black Americans would only come about through reacquainting African-Americans with their cultural heritage and uniting them in a spirit of family and community.

The word *Kwanzaa* is derived from Swahili words meaning "first fruits of the harvest," and the holiday includes many elements of traditional African harvest celebrations.

On each of the seven nights of Kwanzaa, celebrants gather to light the candles and share their thoughts about that day's principle. Each gathering includes discussions and activities representing Kwanzaa's five fundamental concepts: unity of family, friends, and community, reverence for the creator and creation, which encompasses an appreciation of, and respect for, the environment, commemoration of the past, which includes honoring one's ancestors and valuing one's heritage, commitment to the cultural ideals of the African community, which include truth, justice, and mutual respect, a celebration of the "Good of Life" and appreciation for the blessings of achievement, family, and community. The most joyous and elaborate of Kwanzaa's gatherings takes place on December 31, the 6th day of the holiday period. On that night, a great feast (karamu) is held. Families and friends gather to eat, drink, sing, dance, and read stories and poems celebrating their cultural heritage. Everyone sips from the unity cup and many people exchange gifts.

The Internet is a library at your fingertips. There is much to learn. The information on this page was compiled from a search for the history of Chanukah, Christmas, and Kwanzaa, the three U.S. holidays celebrated in December.



## Welcome Aboard New Members



J.P. Longway III  
2049 Sykes Creek Drive  
Merritt Island, FL 32953  
(321)449-9037 Home Phone  
(321)946-3248 Cell  
Owns 19 foot Wellcraft (No Name)

Additional Active Member  
Donna L. Longway  
(321)947-9236 Cell

William E. Bagwell, Jr.  
1920 Harbor Point Drive  
Merritt Island, FL 32952  
(321)453-1811 Home  
(321)452-4988 Business  
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## UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRON PLEDGE

**I do solemnly pledge to abide by the Bylaws of the United States Power Squadron:**

**Promote high standards of navigation and seamanship:**

**Maintain my boat and operate it legally:**

**Render assistance whenever possible: and**

**Conduct myself in a manner that will add prestige and respect to the United States Power Squadron**

## A Simple 'Thanks' Can Make a Difference by P/C Dennis Leinaar, AP The Ensign— appeared about 6 years ago

Today with our hurried lifestyle, it's easy to forget something as important as the simple thank – you.

Civic, fraternal and volunteer agencies of all kinds are losing members all across the United States. There are many reasons why – one of the main reasons being today's faster paced and, less caring lifestyle.

We have had members resign their positions – some have even quit our organization – all because we have repeatedly forgotten to acknowledge their work. There are two ways we are remiss in saying thank you. One is the obvious verbal thanks; the other is forgetting to show up at an event that friends have worked long and hard to make happen.

We know you can't attend each event but try to attend some.

Those people who work hard can't help but feel hurt and say to themselves, "Why bother?"

**"We all lose when those who are working for our benefit are discouraged."**

We must cooperate with our chairpersons recognizing that they alone know what is entailed in doing their job and must do the job as he or she deems appropriate.

Organizations like ours are nothing without volunteers. We all lose when those who are working for our benefit are discouraged.

For those who don't volunteer because they have no time, **volunteer** and make a little time to work for the CBPS. You'll find it rewarding as it functions to serve the boating com-

The USPS is an organization which promotes boating education, social activities, and civic participation. By volunteering you meet other members with the same interests.

Show each person who performs a job some form of appreciation.

"Gee, what you did was so well done" and comments like that set a person up. After all, a thank-you and the personal satisfaction and pleasure derived from the job are the payment a volunteer receives for the work he or she does.



**Contributing Members Important To Soundings**

Our thanks to the following members who have generously contributed a minimum of \$10.00 to cover some of the Soundings costs. May we include you among their ranks?

Ron and Agnes Bond, George and Genevieve Link, Dick and Penny Fille, Dick and Mary Jane Schnoor, Bob and Marilyn Flannigan, Frank and Jane Sebree, Ed and Helen Kydd, Marian Sweigert, and the members of the Silver Tridents were past contributors joined by John Mulkey, Clarence Pennington, and Jenise, the most recent contributors.

The Cdr thanks you, the Squadron thanks you, and the I thank you.

Your Soundings Editor, Rhoda

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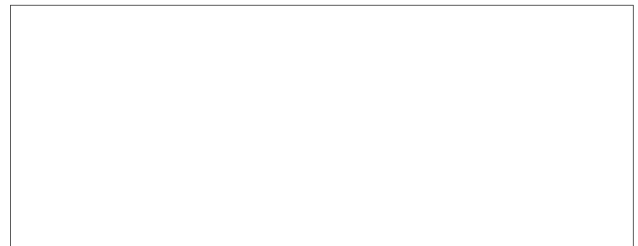
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