



# The Soundings

<http://cbps.us>

December 2004  
Volume XXXVII Issue 11

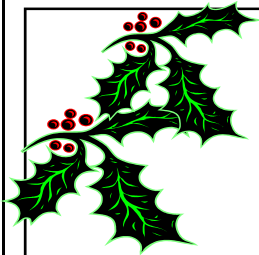


This award was achieved through the efforts of the Staff and contributors.

Official Publication of the Cocoa Beach Power Squadron - A Unit of the United States Power Squadron ® District 23 Sail and Power

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## HOLIDAY MEMBERSHIP MEETING MONDAY DECEMBER 6, 2004- 1900

The monthly membership meeting date has been changed to **MONDAY, DECEMBER 6**, to accommodate a request from the Veteran's Center.

What has not changed is the traditional cookies and eggnog (plain and "flavored") preceding the meeting. The evening's program will commemorate the holiday season in a tropical fashion with a steel drum performance presented by local resident, Steven Pitts. The selection of Christmas music will culminate with a brief sing-a-long performed by those in attendance. So deck yourself in festive attire, stretch out those vocal chords and join us at the Veteran's Center on...remember...



**MONDAY, DECEMBER 6!**



***FROM EVERYONE ON THE SOUNDINGS STAFF:***

***WISHING YOU HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND A SAFE,  
HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!***

## **REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS:**

Don't forget to make your reservations for the Holiday Party on Friday, December 17, 2004.

Please check the November Soundings for details. We'll have pictures to share in the January issue of the Soundings.

## THE BRIDGE OFFICERS

### Commander

Marion A. Miller, JN 638-1247  
mmiller873@cfl.rr.com

### Executive Officer

Lt/C John Mulkey, P  
633-0094

J\_mulkey@bellsouth.net

### Administrative Officer

Lt/C Pamela Johnson, P  
783-0560

LJohnson22@cfl.rr.com

### Squadron Educational Officer

Lt/C Howard Bernbaum, SN  
452-0320

howardb@cfl.rr.com

### Secretary

Lt/C Sandy Schoonmaker, SN  
453-8130

schoon67@msn.com

### Treasurer

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

rsmith6@cfl.rr.com

## The Soundings

### Editor

Lt. Linda Feldes

452-7694

lfeldes@cfl.rr.com

1755 Larchmont Court

Merritt Island, FL 32952

### Advertising Sales

P/C Duane Balkema, AP

452-5892

mbalkema@cfl.rr.com

### Chairman, Distribution

Lt. Paul Pfadenhauer, P

783-2552

Pauljp66@cfl.rr.com

### Mailing Committee:

Joe Auchter, AP

1/Lt Garry Pell, P

### Photographer

Lt. Trent S. Milliken, P

## **SOUNDINGS DEADLINE: THE 10TH OF EACH MONTH**

**We welcome comments,  
boating stories and any  
articles of interest you'd  
like to submit...**



## *At The Helm*

Cdr Marion (Bud) A. Miller, JN

One of the primary goals of the Cocoa Beach Power Squadron is to educate the public on boating safety. Lately, we have been very busy doing this. Several weeks ago, Duane Balkema, John Mulkey, Rick Schoonmaker, J. P. Longway and I spent a day representing the CBPS at the Kennedy Space Center Super Safety Day event. We set up a display in a huge tent located next to the monstrous VAB. While there, we passed out literature, answered questions, showed a Vessel Safety Check video, and signed up a large number of people who expressed interest in taking the next Safe Boating course. Of course for Duane and me, it was old home week as both of us worked at KSC for many years prior to retirement.

Another activity worthy of highlighting is the completion of the Fall Safe Boating course this week. Thanks to a lot of hard work by course directors Pete Schmidt and John Mulkey and supported by an outstanding team of instructors, proctors, the Coco-Nauts, and those who assisted with posting flyers, registering students, grading tests and serving refreshments, this course was a big success. There were approximately 35 students who took the final, which included several families and their young children who attended elementary, middle, or high school. My job was to pass out the completion certificate and shake the hand of each graduate. The kids really amazed me. You could see by the smile in their young faces the pride they were feeling for themselves as each walked up to receive their certificate. They knew that they had just competed on a level with adults and learned that they had done well. It's experiences like this that a Father once told me when I coached Little League many years ago, can make a difference in a young person's life.

Many thanks to Bob Mittauer, our Property Officer, Fred Adame, Howard Bernbaum, Gary Pell, Barbara Millner, Doris Valentine, Ann McCandless and Rick Schoonmaker, who recently volunteered a Saturday morning to help clean out our storage unit. It was long over due and now is safe to walk in! Numerous historic relics were found as well as good candidates for our auction.

We are entering the Holiday time of the year and there is a lot going on. One major event is the Squadron's Holiday Dinner Dance on Friday, December 17. I can assure you that holding it at the newly remodeled Cocoa Civic Center, it will be an elegant affair. Ann and Johnny McCandless have done an excellent job planning for it. Not only will a delicious buffet dinner be served, but live music will be provided by the Marion Scott Quartet, back by popular demand. This is one of the top musical groups in Brevard county and we are fortunate to have them. The price for this event is a bargain and I hope to see many of you there. For your information, we scheduled this event on this date in order to de-conflict it from the many boat parades and parties by other organizations.

Judy and I want to wish that each of you have a Happy Holiday Season. There are many things that we have for which to be thankful. The most important is our health which is something that I have learned that one cannot take for granted.

Commander Bud

P.S. The last meeting of the year is Monday, December 6 rather than Tuesday, December 7 due to scheduling issues at the Veterans' Center. Please mark your calendars.

## ***Executive Officer Report***

**L/C John F. Mulkey, P**

What a year this has been! Hurricanes have a way of changing everyone's plans. Our Public Boating Course was delayed. The Veterans Center was closed down and we had to move one evening's class to Cape Canaveral Hospital. The truly amazing thing to me was that the majority of our students "hung in there" and finished the class. That was true dedication!

We would like to thank the instructors, proctors, graders and the Coconauts for a job well done.

It takes a lot of time and hard work to make the Cocoa Beach Power Squadron successful, but the satisfaction of a "job well done" far outweighs the merit marks that we receive. We DO make a difference and our waterways are safer for it.

Thanks to all my committee chairmen and Happy Holiday to all!

## ***SEO REPORT***

**Lt./C Howard Bernbaum, SN**

For all intents and purposes the Squadron Boating course is done. The exam was Thursday, November 11 and this was a very good group. Despite the hurricanes causing us to move the class around and even cancel one night, the group stayed with us and nearly all were in attendance the last class night. We thank our lecturers and our proctors for their dedicated efforts and, in particular, John Mulkey, for taking over while Pete Schmidt is in New Zealand.

Also on Thursday, November 11 we started the new Piloting course with Fred Adame at the lectern and Rick Schoonmaker and myself as proctors/teachers. There are 7 students enrolled. We have reviewed the course and it looks very good. Besides all the fundamentals of the old Piloting course, this one introduces the use of GPS as a navigational tool and it also teaches the student how to maneuver around computerized electronic charting. It is a hands-on course with much of the work being accomplished in the classroom. I think it will prove to be a great improvement over the old Piloting course.

For our newer members we plan to offer a Seamanship course starting in January. There are quite a few of our members who have not had this course. It is a prerequisite to Piloting, Advanced Piloting, Junior Navigation and Navigation. Hopefully with the election year behind us we can get back to our education program. People seem to have had too many other things on their mind this year and education was not among them. I cannot emphasize enough the importance of education to boating and boating safety. There are any number of good things to be said for attending class and not one negative.

Let's make it a good year for your next Squadron Education Officer!

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## GET SEA EXPERIENCE HERE

This was sent to the Soundings by P/C Jim Neal, who is currently transferring to D/23, Jacksonville Sail and Power Squadron

P/C Jim Neal works as a professional delivery skipper and has operated power vessels to 350 ft. and sail to 115 ft. Taking his seamanship and navigation training to the water, he offers USPS members a chance to get broader experience, whether inland, coastal, or ocean, on a wide range of vessels.

Preference is given to those wanting to accumulate sea time to qualify for their captain's license, but all are welcome, and this is a great opportunity to get greater operating experience and gain confidence in your piloting and navigation skills.

All provisioning and travel expenses are covered. Passports are needed for passages out of the country.

You may contact Jim to exchange resumes by contacting him at (904)692-1920, email to [thistle@aug.com](mailto:thistle@aug.com), or send your resume to Capt. James R. Neal, 4275 Flagler Estates Blvd., Hastings, FL 32145. Be sure to include information on your availability, how best to contact you, and if you experience any health or medical restrictions.

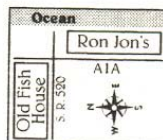
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# Cocoa Beach Power Squadron Boaters: Let's Do The Parade!!!

**Boating Chairman, P/C Duane L. Balkema, AP**

As you all know, The Cocoa Beach Christmas Parade is scheduled for December 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. This is, I believe, the oldest parade in the area. Lots of lights, family, and fun.

To comment, I have done the parade several times with a twin engine/trans boat and been very happy that I could reverse one engine and forward the other to avoid a problem. If you've done it yourself you know what I mean!!! Ok, maybe you watched from shore and thought it was neat. **Well, this time, let's go to the parade by boat. We can go out early, raft up, get comfortable, and watch everyone else parade around us on three sides. It is fabulous and I have done it a couple of times.**

If anyone remembers the boat TomCat, well, we anchored 75 feet apart and did not know we were both there until we listened to comments on the radio...We then rafted and had a party together.

This event is not the work and risk that is required if you do the parade. The water is deep where we will anchor. There will be, I would expect, 100 boats to watch. It will be lots of fun. We go out at 3:00 PM, anchor, and set up. Raft up just south of the 520 bridge. The parade boats start arriving at 5:00 PM and the action progresses. Then at 6:00 the Parade begins. By 7:30 most have passed us, but we can still monitor the radio and listen to the action. You can then overnight or proceed home and call it an exciting evening.

**Ok...Everyone, here's your challenge:**

**Let's get out there and do a really neat Boating Event!!!! It's the last one of the year. Give me a call on 452-5892 if you're interested in having a really fun time to kick off the holidays.**

## Auction Update - January 24, 2005!



The Cocoa Beach Power Squadron Annual Auction has been rescheduled for Monday, January 24, 2005 at 7pm at the Comfort Inn in Cocoa Beach. Much help is still needed. We are looking for volunteers for soliciting donations, setup, and other administrative tasks.

Please show your support of this very important squadron fundraiser by signing up to help.

Donations for the auction may be dropped off at Lt/C Pam Johnson's house or Lt. Gene Millner's house.

Call Lt. Jim O'Malley at 459-9353 to volunteer.

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USPS DISTRICT 23 SPRING CONFERENCE



AND  
MARDI GRAS 2005

March 4-6, 2005

Starting with Hospitality on Friday afternoon and finishing up with the *N-Club* breakfast on Sunday morning, the Holiday Inn, Altamonte Springs will be the place for food, frivolity, comradery and, of course, business for members and guests of District 23.

Friday nights theme party (back by popular demand) will be **MARDI GRAS 2005**. Be who you want to be for the evening (costumes preferred). The doors will be closed and only your most intimate friends will know how you really like to have fun. With the help of some great food (Mardi Gras ~ with Shrimp New Orleans and Bourbon Chicken), lively dance music and the Harris Chain and Seminole "Cast of Characters", we'll start off the weekend in style with dinner at 1900 and party activities till 2300.

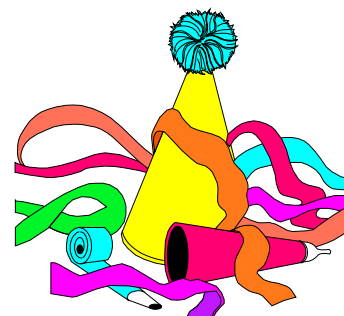
Saturday will be the business part of the weekend with the Council, workshops and Conference being the focus of the day. And don't forget, this is the time we will be electing our new District Bridge. While all the planning and voting is going on your spouse/guest can enjoy a leisure day by Holiday Inn's Olympic size pool and 20 foot waterfall or share some social activities in the local area with the ladies of the Harris Chain and Seminole Squadrons. We'll wrap up these daytime events with another superb Hospitality Suite.

Saturday evening's formal dinner will have Royal Chicken Breast or Sliced London Broil (your choice) on the menu (special diet available) as we bid fond farewell to the outgoing Bridge and install the newly elected Bridge Officers. In addition, District awards will be presented recognizing the hard work and dedication of squadrons and individuals in District 23 over the past year.

The weekend will conclude with a buffet breakfast and guest speaker on Sunday morning. This will be hosted by the *N-Club* and followed by their business meeting.

The Holiday Inn, Altamonte Springs is conveniently located one block west of Interstate 4, exit 92, on State Route 436. With modernized facilities, their rooms have a refrigerator, microwave, coffee maker, ironing board (with iron) and hair dryer.

The activities are organized; the sets are in place; we just need you to make the weekend an enjoyable, successful event. Get your reservations in early and share the weekend with your District 23 shipmates. See you there!!





## **CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS:**

### **DECEMBER:**

01-Monday, 0900-1100, Blood Bank, Veterans' Memorial Center

06-Monday; 1900; General Meeting, Veterans' Memorial Center—NOTE CHANGE!

07-Tuesday; **FIRST DAY OF HANNUKAH**

08-Wednesday; 12:30; Coco-Nauts Luncheon Meeting; Chowders on U.S. 1

17-Friday; 1800-2100, CBPS Holiday Party; Cocoa Civic Center

25-Saturday; **CHRISTMAS DAY**

28-Tuesday; 1900-2100; Exec. Board Mtg; Merritt Island Library; N. Courtenay

31-Friday; **NEW YEARS EVE**

### **JANUARY:**

01-Saturday; **NEW YEARS DAY**

04-Tuesday; 1900; General Meeting, Veterans' Center

06-08 Thu-Sat; USPS General Meeting, Orlando

12-Wednesday; 12:30; Coco-Nauts Luncheon Meeting; MI Moose Lodge

22-Saturday, Coco-Nauts Luau, Stonewood

22-Saturday; District 23 Council Meeting

24-Monday; 1900; CBPS Auction, Comfort Inn

25-Tuesday, 1900-2100; Exec. Board Mtg; Merritt Island Library; N. Courtenay Pkwy.

CBPS members are invited to meet and eat each Wednesday at 1130 at the Cozy Corner Café at 2425 N. Courtenay Pkwy. Breakfast and light lunches are available.

Members are also invited to meet for a casual get together at Murdock's in Cocoa Village on Friday afternoons.

## **IMPORTANT COCO-NAUTS NOTICE**

Pursuant to Article V. Section 4 (b) of the Cocoa Beach Power Squadron Auxiliary by-laws, this will notify members of the Auxiliary that dues are due and payable by January 1st in the amount of \$6.00. Check should be made out to CBPS Auxiliary and sent to the Treasurer.

Doris Valentine  
2170 Hedgerow Drive  
Merritt Island, Fl. 32953

Dues can also be paid in cash at either the Coco-Nauts meeting in December or the **MONDAY** night meeting of the Squadron.





## Coco-Nauts' Corner

Barbara Millner, President

On October 21<sup>st</sup>, the Coco-Nauts had a pizza party for the Boat Smart class. Then on the night of their test, students were found enjoying cookies and other goodies along with sodas and coffee—once again compliments of the Coco-Nauts.

Seventy of the bears that we made in late September were recently picked up at my home by a representative of the Sheriff's Department. The rest of that "batch" will be given to the pediatric ward at Wuesthoff Hospital close to the holidays.

Our December 8th meeting will be held at 11:30 AM at Chowders. We will be collecting items for nursing homes, as we've done for several years. For new members who may not be familiar with this project, we purchase and wrap gifts to be given to residents of Courtenay Springs. Suggested items to purchase would be body and hand lotion for ladies, a box of candy, brush & comb sets, calendars, clocks, cookies in a tin box, crossword books (search & circle—good for eye coordination), dusting powder, ladies cosmetic bag, nail polish, men's soap, shaving cream, shaving lotion, slippers (female size M, male size L), assorted cards, stationary, stamps, purse size Kleenex, large boxes of Kleenex, men's handkerchiefs and cotton socks for both female and male residents. Small Christmas decorations for residents' rooms would also be appreciated. Remember, the wrapped gifts need to be marked for man or lady. It may help the nursing home deliver gifts to the right person if you also wrote what was in the package.

The Domestic Violence program run by the Salvation Army is again in need of personal items such as shampoo, lotions, toothbrushes, combs, deodorant, etc. for women who come in on a moment's notice. If you've traveled recently and have any of the sample sizes of these articles and would like to donate them, they'd be appreciated. Please bring them to the December meeting, and I'll be sure they get to the center.

In December we will be collecting non-perishable food for the Sharing Center at the Power Squadron meeting. If you are unable to attend that meeting and would like to contribute to this worthy cause, the items may be brought to the Coco-Nauts December meeting.

Due to a scheduling problem, our January meeting will not be held at the Merritt Island Library as indicated on the information booklet. The new meeting place for January will be at the Moose Lodge. We'll have a brown bag lunch with drinks and dessert provided.

Coco-Naut birthdays in December:

7<sup>th</sup>—Joan Montfort  
25<sup>th</sup>—Arlene Bestow  
25<sup>th</sup>—Lorraine Pell  
27<sup>th</sup>—Barbara Bakmazian

**2005-2006 SLATE of OFFICERS for the COCONAUTS is as follows:**

**President:** Barbara M. Millner, S

**Vice President:** Kathryn Wurst

**Secretary:** Marian H. Sweigart, AP

**Treasurer:** Doris Valentine

**Member-At Large:** Betty Craven

**Member-At Large:** Loraine Pell

**Member-At-Large:** Angie Vilardebo

**Auditing Committee:** Yola Bercin, P and Pamela H. Johnson, P

## Blood Bank Report

Lt Barbara Millner, S

If you've tried to donate blood but found you were unable to because of an iron deficiency, you may be able to correct this condition through a change in diet.

**Best sources** for iron include iron fortified cereals and liver (chicken, beef or pork).

**Good sources** of iron are lean meat, greens (turnip, mustard, collard, spinach), liverwurst, oysters, clams, prunes (prune juice), raisins, dried apricots, dried peaches, dried beans and green lima beans.

**Fair sources** of iron include eggs, enriched cereals, enriched bread, blackberries, strawberries, watermelon, black-eyed peas and green peas.

Vitamin C is needed by your body to help you use the iron you eat.

Those who donated on September 16<sup>th</sup> included:

Duane Balkema	John Lynn
Ron Galloway	Claudia Gunner
Paul Pfadenhauer	Herb Giordano
Carol Hayes	Frank Sebree
John Kaufmann	Scott Kee
Jack Wurst	Nicole Scala
Barbara Millner	Gene Millner
Tricia Sheridan	

Because of the hurricanes, blood is still desperately needed in our county at this time. **THANK YOU** to all who helped by coming out for this blood drive, both members and non-members! Our next date for donating is on Wednesday, December 1, 2004.

## Safety Report

P/R/C Jane Schnoor, SN

Many of our members trailer their boats to various locations. There are a few safety tips to remember when doing this.

There should be no loose articles in the boat that may fly out while you are driving, such as life preservers, buckets, fishing poles, etc.

An accident last spring was caused when a seat cushion flew out of a boat being towed by a pick-up truck. A large van following the truck and boat swerved to the left to avoid the cushion, and then to then over-corrected to the right, causing the van to overturn several times. An 11-year-old girl was killed and eight children and three adults were injured.

The driver of the pick-up truck was charged with not having his load secured and could possibly face charges on vehicular homicide. Forethought could have prevented this accident.

In another case not only did a fishing pole and reel fly out of a boat but the trawling motor fell off as well. Fortunately no cars were following and no accident ensued.

However, the owner who neither saw nor heard these items fall, had a shock when he got to his fishing locations to find these items missing.

So, let a word to the wise suffice.



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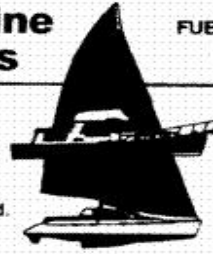
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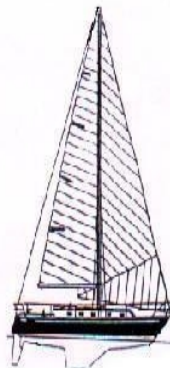
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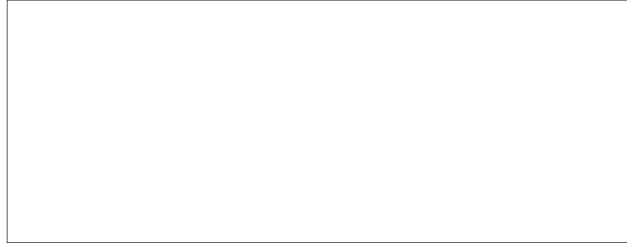
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