



The Soundings

<http://cbps.us>

February 2005
Volume XXXVIII Issue 2



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

In this Issue	
At the Helm	2
Executive Officer's Report SEO's Report	3
Our Sponsors Secretary's Report	4
Change of Watch	5
Galaxy 23	6
Community Emergency Response Team	7
Calendar Boating Safety	8
Coco-Nauts Corner	9
Blood Bank Report	10
Advertising	11 12 13
Mailer	14

General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, February 1, 2005; 19:00

Cocoa Civic Center

430 Delanoy Avenue, Cocoa Village

Election of Officers

Please refer to the January Soundings

for a list of candidates

Yes, it's true that we are moving to a new location for the monthly meetings and classes. Effective with our General Membership meeting on February 1, 2005, the monthly membership meeting will be held at the newly remodeled Cocoa Civic Center located at 430 Delanoy Avenue in Cocoa Village. The various courses offered will be taught at either Cape Canaveral or Wuestoff Hospitals or the Central Brevard Library in Cocoa, depending on the signups. The new Piloting class started several weeks ago at Wuestoff and is progressing well at that location.

We have enjoyed our association with the Veterans' Memorial Center. It has served our needs well for several years. However, in early 2004, the Executive Board determined that our rental expense was excessive and needed to be reduced in order to keep our dues low. We were successful in negotiating class room space at the hospitals and library for no cost and a large meeting room at the Cocoa Civic Center for a much lower rental cost that meets our needs.

Not only do these actions results in a significant reduction in overall squadron rental expense but it's a facilities up-grade as well.

Cocoa Village has experienced major enhancements in recent years with the addition of many nearby restaurants and bistros. Attending the monthly meeting can also become a night on the town and a fun social experience. Parking is available street side or across the street in the Bank of America parking lot.

Hope to see you all at the new facility!

Bud Miller

THE BRIDGE OFFICERS

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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

The Countdown Clock for the 2005 Bridge elections and Change of Watch has started and all systems are "GO"! The Nominations Committee under P/C Larry Hatfield's leadership has done an excellent job with the slate of officers and other elected positions for this year. The squadron is most fortunate to have these dedicated individuals who are willing to serve as volunteers on behalf of all of us.

I would like to start off my year in review by saying thanks to all of you who stepped forward to serve when asked. The team spirit is a trademark of that group which made my job easy (well, not really, but you know what I mean!) I believe a lot was accomplished this year.

On the plus side, we returned to teaching the eight week public boating course and taught two sessions. This resulted in many fine new members. An emphasis was placed on the Cooperative Charting program. Thanks to the efforts of several members, CBPS leads District 23 in credits for the year. Seventy-two members received Merit Marks. Lts. Ann and Johnny McCandless provided a wide variety of enjoyable social activities throughout the year, capped off by the fantastic Holiday Dinner Dance.

Blood Drive participation was good, and program speakers at the monthly meetings continued to provide interesting subjects. Publication and distribution of The Soundings newsletter continues to be accomplished in a high quality and professional manner. This is reflection of the individuals involved. For this we are most appreciative.

One major area of accomplishment that the Executive Board focused on was to improve our financial position without having to increase our dues. We analyzed both Squadron expenses and revenues and were successful in improving both. Revenues were increased by expanding Ships Store sales and Sounding advertisements and a new form of fund raising, the Reverse Raffle. A major expense reduction initiative was achieved by reducing rental costs. The squadron found alternate locations for classrooms and meetings at reduced or no cost. The bottom line is that the squadron is in good shape financially!

There are a couple of areas where improvement is needed. These will be mentioned briefly. The number of members taking courses has declined. Although instructors were available, classes had to be cancelled due to insufficient number of students. Likewise, an interesting variety of Boating activities were planned throughout the year but several were cancelled due to lack of participants; turnout for others was low.

Finally, member involvement is important to an organization such as ours. I sincerely encourage all of you to volunteer to help when asked and become an involved member. In doing so you will find out that it is not what you thought and is in fact, an enjoyable experience. Take advantage of the excellent educational opportunities offered and help us become a boating group again. These are the challenges for the next Board.

I hope you are planning to attend the Change of Watch on February 20, 2005 at 4:00 PM at the Cocoa Beach Holiday Inn. Please contact Lt. Doris Valentine to make reservations. You don't want to miss this event as the new officers will be inducted for the Squadron and the Coco-Nauts. Special awards will also be announced.

I have thoroughly enjoyed the experience serving as Commander of the Cocoa Beach Power Squadron. I want to thank the Bridge officers, committee chairpersons and many others for a job well done. I especially want to thank the Coco-Nauts for their generous gift of \$500 to purchase a new sound system for the squadron meetings.

Commander Bud signing off!

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

A New Year, a new Bridge and a new meeting place. Our February meeting will be the first time we meet in the Cocoa Community Building. Hopefully, all will go smoothly. But with as with any change, there are always a few details to be worked out.

Also in February we will be electing a new Bridge. That means we will be needing new committee chairpersons. I am hopeful that many of our current chairpersons will agree to serve again, but we will still need **VOLUNTEERS** to fill some chair positions and committees.

The key word here is **VOLUNTEER**.. Sure, we want to get the new members involved, but they need the people who have "done it before" to point the way. There is a wealth of knowledge and experience in our squadron and we need your input and help. Don't let your experience go to waste...**VOLUNTEER!**

We will be trying some new ideas in 2005. Some will work and others may not. Either way, we want your input. If you have a suggestion for another site to hold meetings, classes or special events, please let us know.

The more you are involved the better our organization will be.

SEO REPORT

Lt/C Howard Bernbaum, SN

This is my last report as SEO and I want to thank all the good members who gave me so much support, my assistant SEO, the teachers, course chairmen, boating chairman, and of course, the students. Fred Adame SN will be the new SEO and I hope you all give him lots of support as will I. I have been either SEO or assistant SEO for 5 years and it is past time to turn over the reins.

As of this writing, the Piloting course continues and I still like the new approach. We have a Seamanship class starting in January and it appears we will have 10 students. That is good although there are three times that number who should take the course. It is a prerequisite to all the Advanced Grade courses and the program could falter without a sufficient base of students. Let me encourage you to sign up for our educational program. Most of the courses are not too difficult and the knowledge gained makes your experience on the water that much better. Further, the class room environment is enjoyable and you really get to know your fellow members.

Remember...The more you put into your organization, the more you get out of it.

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Secretary Report

Lt/C Sandy Schoonmaker, SN

Each month the Soundings publishes the names of OUR SPONSORS who have contributed a minimum of \$10.00 toward the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter. With over 220 copies distributed at a monthly cost of approximately \$135.00, the sponsorships greatly assist with the budgeting for the squadron.

Since this is an annual contribution, Sponsorships are beginning to expire in December. To assist the members in determining when it is time to renew their contribution, an asterisk will appear by their names in the Sponsorship column.

To continue your sponsorship, please remit a check to the Cocoa Beach Power Squadron at the next meeting or mail it to the Secretary, as follows:

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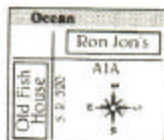
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CBPS 2005 Change of Watch

When: Sunday, February 20, 2005

Where: Holiday Inn
Cocoa Beach Oceanfront Resort
Manatee Room
1300 North Atlantic Avenue

Time: 4 P.M.-Social Hour (Cash Bar)
5 P.M.-Call to Order and Dinner
6 P.M.-Program/Awards

Dinner Menu Selection

Champagne Chicken: \$23.00

Mango Mahi Mahi: \$25.00

Prime Rib: \$27.00

Contact Lt. Doris Valentine at 452-1835 for Reservations.
Reservations are required by February 6, 2005.



GALAXY 23

FROM THE DISTRICT BRIDGE

D/C Ann Fields, SN

The USPS Annual meeting in Orlando last month gave us all a chance to learn more about some of the new things going on in USPS. We had a nice turnout from D23 - everyone left with lots of information from the meetings and Expo, enjoyed the Wednesday and Thursday evenings' entertainment provided free to members, and enjoyed the great Hospitality Room that D23 hosted Friday evening.

I was very proud to represent District 23 at the annual meeting, and accept some of the many awards our members and Squadrons received. Several of our members received Power of One Awards: Stan Given (Gainesville), George Corsones (Seminole), and Elaine Reichert (Ponce Inlet) were recognized with a 'Power of One' Hat for influencing 5 members to join USPS; Elaine Reichert was also awarded a very nice jacket for influencing 10 new members to join! Karen Andros (Titusville) and Matthew Bandilla (Titusville) both were recognized for Outstanding Contribution & Support for the Vessel Safety Check Program, 2004, and are now members of the 'Century Club' - they each performed over 100 VSCs in 2004, and this is the second year for Matt! And, not surprisingly, Titusville was awarded 2nd place for Best Squadron in USPS for VSCs, and D23 was awarded 2nd place for Best District in USPS for VSC. The Ocala Squadron did an outstanding job in the Teaching Aids competition, winning 5 awards at the National level as well as a special award for entering a Teaching Aid in each category. In addition, Ocala received the 'TAC' Award, in which only the TAs that won 'Best of Show' in their respective district competitions are judged against each other in a special category. Don Clark (Harris Chain) was chairman for EXPO and did a great job organizing the day long event. Congratulations to all of these D23 Squadrons and members on a job well done!

D23 publications and websites were also recognized at the Annual meeting. The District 23 publication, The Galaxy, and nearly every one of the D23 Squadron newsletters were recognized for Excellence in Journalism! In addition, the D23 Website and three squadron websites, Banana River, Harris Chain, and Jacksonville, were all recognized with the Website Award for Excellence. A big thanks to our squadron editors, webmasters, and all the folks that contributed articles and helped earn this recognition. National Officers were also sworn in at the Annual meeting; Carmen Adame (Cocoa Beach), Walt Fields (Ocala), and I were sworn in as Rear Commanders of our respective National Committees.

This was the first Annual meeting where D23, as the Host District, held a Boat Smart class in conjunction with the Annual meeting. This class was conducted jointly by the Orlando and Seminole Squadrons, with 33 students graduating and six graduates joining USPS. These new members were invited to attend the Annual meeting; three of them did, and they were sworn in by the Chief Commander, with the help of some 900 USPS members! Congratulations to these new members, and to all the members of the Orlando and Seminole Squadrons that worked so hard to make this class such a success!

These awards wrap up a very successful year for District 23. I'm honored to have served as your District Commander this past year. I want to thank my Bridge for all their support and hard work throughout the year. Next month will be our District Change of Watch, and I hope you have made your plans to attend the Spring Conference. Information and registration forms are on the D23 website: www.usps.org/localusps/d23. Your 2005 Bridge is at work preparing for the new year, and with your continuing support, I'm sure D23 will have another great year!

Community **E**mergency **R**esponse **T**eam

What is CERT?

Each year, Central Florida communities are rocked by severe weather such as hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, fires and even man-made disasters. The damage caused by such disasters affect everyone. Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) are trained to take care of themselves and then help others in their communities for the first three days following a disaster.

The purpose of CERT training is to provide citizens with the basic skills required to handle virtually all their own needs and then to be able to respond to the needs of the community in the aftermath of a disaster.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) established the Community Emergency Response Team concept in 1994. Since then CERT teams have been established in hundreds of communities. It promotes a partnering effort between emergency services and the people that they serve.

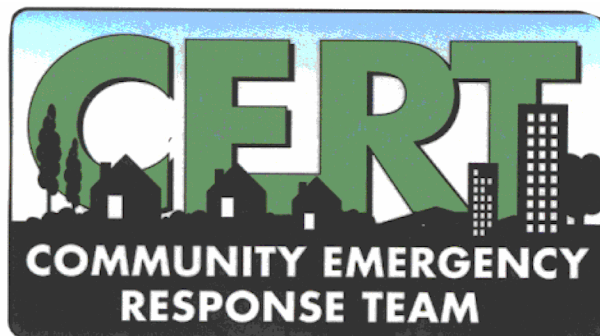
The CERT Course consists of 24 hours of training, one day per week for eight weeks. Classes are taught by trained personnel from your community. The course agenda includes classes on Disaster Awareness, Disaster Fire Safety Techniques, Disaster Medical Operations, Light Search and Rescue Operations and Homeland Defense as well as other topics.

How can I help?

Call Mrs. Nancy Smith at 321-637-4072 to request further information about forming a CERT in your area. You can also get more information on the website at www.embrevard.com and at www.ready.gov

Disaster can strike when you least expect it...

Don't be afraid...Be Ready!



CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS:

FEBRUARY:

01-Tuesday; 1900; General Meeting, Cocoa Civic Center - Elections

09-Wednesday; 11:30; Coco-Nauts Friendship Luncheon Meeting

14-Monday; **VALENTINES DAY**

20-Sunday; 16:00; Change of Watch; Holiday Inn, Cocoa Beach

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

MARCH:

01-Tuesday; 1900; General Meeting, Cocoa Civic Center

08-Tuesday; 11:30, Coco-Nauts Luncheon Meeting, Holiday Inn, Cocoa Beach

29-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.

Boating Safety Information

printed in the Lookout, National Boating Federation publication, Winter 2005 edition

The 2003 boating accident statistics have been released. There were 5,438 boating accidents reported for the year. Boating fatalities numbered 703 and decreased from 750 in 2002—a difference of 47 lives. **Nearly 80% of these fatalities occurred on boats where the operator had not received boating safety instruction.** Alcohol was involved in 31% of all boating fatalities.

The five major causes of boating accidents were collision with a vessel, collision with a fixed object, capsizing, falls overboard and skier mishap. Overall, the major causes of boating accidents in order of prevalence, were:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Operator inattention | Passenger/skier behavior |
| Carelessness/reckless operation | No proper lookout |
| Operator inexperience | Alcohol use |
| Excessive speed | Machinery system failure |
| Hazardous waters | Rules of the road infraction |

Coco-Nauts' Corner
Barbara Millner, President

We've grown again! We extend a hearty welcome to new members Debra Burleson, Guinda Derrico, Ruth Finn, and Marlene Walters. We hope to see you at our up-coming events.

Our annual Friendship Salad Luncheon and meeting are scheduled for 11:30 AM on February 9th at Arlene Gage's rec room at Windward East in Cocoa Beach. Your caller will give you directions.

April 23rd is our fund raiser date for this year. We'll be having a High Tea and Fashion Show which will be held at Faith Lutheran Church on Merritt Island. We're including a Silent Auction, so if you recently received some Christmas gifts that were the wrong color, wrong style, something you'd never use and you don't know what to do with the item(s), we have a suggestion! Put it aside for the Silent Auction. (Remember, one man's trash is another's treasure)! To make this fund raiser a success, we need the help of all members. Please plan to attend, and also invite neighbors and friends to join us. It should be a fun day for all.

Speaking of fund raisers, this year in addition to the High Tea and Fashion Show, we're going to be offering Holiday Baskets. Our talented and creative Marge Balkema will be putting these together, and we'll be selling chances on them at Power Squadron meetings. The first basket will be a Valentine one and will be at the February meeting. Many of you saw the baskets Marge assembled for the last two fund raisers, and know how popular they were. We're looking forward to her latest "creation"!!

On February 20th our Coco-Naut bridge will be installed along with the Power Squadron's, so I hope many of you will plan to attend. The event will take place at the newly renovated Holiday Inn. If you haven't already signed up and would like to attend, call Pam Johnson (783-0560) to make your reservation.

Coco-Nauts with February birthdays include:

- 6th—Fricky Vaughn
- 11th—Helen Kydd
- 14th—Marlene Walters
- 19th—Judy Miller
- 26th—Alice Benton



Happy Birthday, Ladies!

Blood Bank Report

Lt Barbara Millner, S

Blood drives for the 2005 year will be held on the following dates: March 24th, May 19th, July 14th, September 15th, and November 17th. This year the dates are all on Thursdays, and we hope to see you there. New members, we encourage you to join us in this worthwhile endeavor.

Every pint of blood collected by Florida's Blood Centers undergoes 18 hours of processing, testing and labeling. During this testing, every pint goes through 12 screening tests before being transfused. Blood drawn is usually transfused within 36 hours of collection.

People who have been in a car accident or suffered mass blood loss need an average of 50 pints of blood. Cancer patients need blood and blood products on an ongoing basis while undergoing chemotherapy and or radiation. Open heart surgery uses an average of six pints of red blood cells and six units of platelets. Burn victims severe cases can need 20 units of platelets during treatment. The average bone marrow transplant requires 120 units of platelets and about 20 units of red blood cells. One donation can transfuse four premature babies, who often use blood once a day until they are strong enough to go home. Hip or knee replacement surgery can require between two and eight units.

With numbers such as these, you can see why it's important to have blood drives. Please consider joining us if at all possible.

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