



JULY/AUGUST 2006 Volume XLV, Issue 7



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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General Membership Meetings

Tuesday, July 11, 2006, 1900

Cocoa Civic Center

430 Delannoy Ave., Cocoa Village

Tuesday, July 11, 2006, 1900

LAWRENCE FELDHEIM, MARINE SURVEYOR & SHIPWRIGHT

Captain Larry will discuss how to "prep" your boat for sale, what to expect from a marine survey and more.

Tuesday, August 1, 2006, 1900

DENNIS DECKER, MELBOURNE WEATHER OFFICE

Dennis will discuss the effects of this year's tropical, continental and Bermuda high conditions on daily boating weather.

REMINDER Don't forget Friday, August 4th, at 6:00pm, the "Indian River Queen" Paddle Boat Dinner/Cruise.

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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

Commander Sandy Schoonmaker, SN



HAVE YOU HEARD THE NEWS?

Keeping 200+ members informed of the squadron news is a challenge for any organization and one that the Cocoa Beach Power Squadron works very hard at meeting.

If you are reading this article you are obviously taking advantage of the traditional monthly newsletter. "The Soundings" is printed 11 times a year with July/August being a combined edition. Mailed to the members' current addresses and posted on the CBPS WEB Site, each member is assured of being kept informed of what is the most current news at the time of its printing.

However, we all know that no monthly publication can be considered a truly timely source of news. In order to over-come this deficiency, the squadron has created an email communication system. Lt. Brian Grigsby, AP, has faithfully acted as the Communications Officer for the past several years. From either his Florida home in Cocoa Beach or from his summer home in up-state New York, Brian can be relied upon to distribute current items of interest to all those who have given him their email addresses.

So HAVE YOU HEARD THE NEWS?

If not, you aren't receiving and reading your "Soundings" or you aren't on Brian's email list. To assure you receive the newsletter, always keep the squadron secretary, Lt/C Johan Neve, S, (johan.neve@rsandh.com) apprised of your current address. As for the reading part, we can only hope for the best. To receive the emails, get your name on the email list by sending your address to Brian at rbgrigsby.@aol.com.

Since this is the combined July/August issue of "The Soundings" and since so many of you are off on vacation, it is especially important that you give us a means of communicating with you.

The regular membership meetings will be held on <u>July 11th</u> and <u>August 1st</u>, both with great speakers. Please plan on attending if you are in town. If we won't see you again until <u>September 5th</u>, please note that we will be meeting at the Kiwanis Pavilion Meeting Room on Kiwanis Island on Rte. 520 just west of Wal-Mart. This will be our Italian Dinner Night. As a special added attraction, we are inviting you all to wear your "Bragging Shirts" from one of your summer vacation adventures. It is a casual evening with wine, wonderful food and a very short meeting!

Hope to see a bunch of you at the July 4th Raft-Up. The *Serenade* plans on attending. You are all welcome to bring your snack food and tie off for one of the area's very best fire works display.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT P/Lt/C Mike Stone, P

The fundamental mission of USPS is to promote safe boating. This is done through boating education and vessel safety inspections. We can teach boaters the concepts of safety on the water through USPS boating courses but that is not sufficient in itself. The companion program to boating safety education is vessel safety examinations that provide physical inspections of the boat safety equipment and the physical condition of the boat. These two programs together greatly increase the probability that a boater has the necessary knowledge and can operate a boat in accordance with Federal and State safety requirements and more importantly ensure the safety of the boat operator, passengers, and other boaters.

To date, CBPS Vessel Safety Examiners have completed approximately 160 vessel safety inspections. The CBPS Vessel Safety Examination program goal is to inspect 300 boats this year. Last year, 297 boats were inspected. Charlie Dodds, the Vessel Safety Inspection Committee head, conducted a training course for new vessel safety examiners. Four students completed the course held in May. There are now about 16 trained inspectors. Another VSE training class is scheduled for July at the Cocoa library. Persons interested in becoming vessel safety examiners can contact Charlie Dodds for further information. Members that want to have their boat inspected can contact Charlie Dodds or any other vessel safety examiner listed in the CBPS roster, page 21, to coordinate a time and place for the examination.

SEO REPORT P/D/C Fred Adame, SN

On 20 May, Cocoa Beach Power Squadron held it's first-ever one day Boat Smart Course at Cape Canaveral Hospital. After two months of planning and pre-registering students, the course convened at 0900, broke for lunch at 1230 and concluded with the exam on schedule at 1600. Twenty-one students completed the course and passed the examination. Afterwards they joined squadron members for cookies and drinks provided by the Coco-Nauts. Chairman of the Local Board for Boating is P/C John Mulkey, P.

The last of nine students took the Instructor Development exam on 20 May and the reports cards have arrived. I'm proud to say that due to the good job done by our instructor, Cdr Sandra Schoonmaker, SN, all nine students passed. They are now certified instructors. They are Joe Ayala, P, Bernie Burnett, SN, Al Herrold, AP, Chuck Horn, S, Lt Pam Johnson, P, Lt Dee Neve, S, Lt/ C Johan Neve, S, Steve Winter, P, and Lt Jim Wonnel, AP. Congratulations to all of them.

I don't know if you noticed that among the ID students I mentioned Bernie Burnett. For Bernie, Instructor Development is the last of all of the eleven Power Squadron courses and by completing this course, he earns the Educational Achievement award and the grade of Senior Navigator. That's the highest educational grade in USPS.

In spite of all these new certified instructors, we are seeking a volunteer instructor for the Marine Electronics course since Lt Gary Monai, P, is unable to teach this year due to other commitments. The course covers the ship's electrical systems and the very basic theory and operation of GPS, radar, depth sounders, VHF radios and EPIRBS. It's not a heavily technical course and most everyone finds it interesting. Any volunteer instructors? We are looking to start the course in late July if enough students sign up. If interested, please call the SEO, that's me, at 635-9455.

The Piloting course is progressing well at Wuesthoff Hospital with eight members now enrolled. We have GPS receivers for everyone and all students are getting lots of "hands on" time pushing the buttons. Lt Jack Wurst, AP, is the teacher for this course with help from Lt Jim Wonnel, AP, and P/C Sam Greenwood, SN.

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ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT Lt/C J. P. Longway III, S

With the summer months here, the Administrative staff still continues to plan and hold various events for membership involvement in near-term events and activities.

P/C Duane Balkema, AP, assisted by P/C Bud Miller, JN, facilitated the Blessing of the Fleet during May's Boating Safety week. As mentioned in another article of this issue, a number of vessels participated in this event. The next scheduled main boating event is the annual July 4th Cocoa Fireworks Raft-up. Per the boating schedule, the last Saturday of each month identifies a variety of Raft-ups. Thanks to Duane and his boating committee for staying the course by providing many boating opportunities in which members can participate.

Lt Doris Valentine and P/C Susan Kneeland, SN are pressing ahead with all the particulars for the upcoming Indian River Paddle Boat Cruise on Friday, August 4th. Last count that I was privy to was in excess of 100 participants. It's a success, even before it's held. Great job ladies.

Before Lt Jim Wonnell, AP and Lt Edie Wonnell evacuated the area at the start of Hurricane season, Jim left us with a schedule of speakers for the upcoming General Membership meetings. The next being, Lawrence Feldheim, a Marine Surveyor and Shipwright, for the July 11th meeting. Also, Edie has the next Blood Donation set for July 12th. In Edie's absence, any questions, or additional sign-ups can be provided to Lt Kay Wurst, S or Jan Greenwood, P. Thanks to these ladies for their support in keeping the ball rolling, or should I say keeping the blood flow-ing.





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Ron Jon's



GALAXY 23 From the District Bridge

D/Lt/C Paul E. Reichert, AP District Treasurer

Our District is operating under two billing systems. Cocoa Beach and Daytona Beach use Annual Billing. This means that the dues are handled by their squadron treasurer and all members should have renewed by now. The other nine squadrons are on the new system - Anniversary Billing. Under this method Headquarters does the billing just prior to the members Anniversary month. In general the "newest" members, those who joined in the past 2 years, are billed the month they joined the squadron and the "older" members continue to be billed in May with June as their Anniversary month even though they joined in some other month.

No matter which system you are under if you haven't paid for the year 2006-07 it is not too late. Remember, there is no reinstatement fee. For those squadrons on Anniversary Billing the treasurer, or someone appointed by the bridge, should check the USPS dues web site, <u>www.usps.org/dues/reports</u> regularly (password required,) to keep track of renewals/non-renewals. Anniversary Billing dues can be paid on line with a credit card. If you have misplaced your notice, go to <u>www.usps.org/dues</u> and follow the directions.

Thank you to all who have renewed and a special THANK YOU to the Life Members who paid dues this year. For those who haven't heard, a letter was sent to Life Members asking them to pay National dues. Many have responded with a payment.

Paying dues to USPS financially supports our organization; your active participation can help to make us grow. You can help your squadron by teaching or proctoring a course, being a mentor to a new member, planning a squadron activity - these are just a few of the opportunities available, in short, BE INVOLVED.

Titusville did a great job with the May picnic and they are already making plans for next May. It was good to see several members of the Daytona Beach and Ponce Inlet Squadrons arriving by boat.

This fall there will be two more District 23 events. Banana River is hosting the Fall Conference and it is also their 50th Anniversary - should be quite a blast. See your squadron newsletter for full details including registration forms. Then we will have a picnic and opportunity to go boating on Lake Harris. Think about it - a good meal and a relaxing cruise as someone else pilots the boat "over calm waters under a clear blue sky."

Have you checked out the D/23 web site recently? <u>www.usps.org/localusps/d23</u>

****** Don't Forget ******

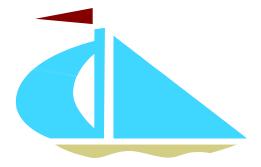
Mark your calendar. Tuesday, September 5 is Italian night.

It will be held at Kiwanis Island and will start at 6:00 pm. Cost is \$5.00 per person. Beer, wine, soft drinks and paper goods will be provided. The CBPS general meeting will follow dinner. Share your favorite Italian recipe and visit with your Squadron friends. Sign up in advance is a must !!!



Looking forward to seeing you there!!! Contact F/Lt Charlie or Angie Vilardebo at "number1@ oleanderpointe.com"

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| CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS: Check the web site and your email for updates! |
| |
| July: 04 - Tuesday, 1730, Rendezvous/Fireworks Raft-up, Oleander Point/ Lee Wenner area 11 - Tuesday, 1900, General Membership Meeting, Cocoa Civic Center 12 - Wednesday, 0900, Blood Donation, Rockledge Blood Donor Center 22 - Saturday, Sailboat Island (North of Locks), See Boating Schedule for contact 25 - Tuesday, 1830 - 2100, Executive Board Meeting, Merritt Island Library |
| August: 01 - Tuesday, 1900, General Membership Meeting, Cocoa Civic Center 04 - Friday, 1800 - 2130, Indian River Paddle Boat Cruise, Whitley Bay Marina 16 - 19, Wed - Sat, USPS Government Board, New York, NY 22 - Tuesday, 1830 - 2100, Executive Board Meeting, Merritt Island Library 26 - Saturday, Sailboat Island (North of Locks), See Boating Schedule for contact |
| September: 05 - Tuesday, 1800, General Membership Meeting - Italian Night, Kiwanis Island Pavilion 06 - Wednesday, Start Boat Smart Course, Cape Canaveral Hospital 09/10 - Sat/Sun, St Johns River Cruise, Astor to Springs, See Boating Sched. for contact 13 - Wednesday, 1130, Coco - Nauts Brown Bag Luncheon, Merritt Island Library 26 - Tuesday, 1830 - 2100, Executive Board Meeting, Merritt Island Library 27 - Wednesday, Boat Smart Course Exam Night, Cape Canaveral Hospital 30 - Saturday, Coco - Nauts Fund Raiser (TBD) |
| 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 after- noons. |





DID YOU KNOW? by Edie Wonnell

When you give blood it is routinely tested for: hepatitis B surface antigen and core antibody, hepatitis C virus and antibody, HIV virus and antibody, human T-cell lymphotropic virus antibody, West Nile Virus and syphilis. Routine antibody screening, blood typing and cholesterol are also tested. You will always receive your cholesterol results in the mail and you can be reassured, if you do not hear about other test results, that all is well. It is a easy (and free) way to keep track of your cholesterol and iron levels.

Thanks to those who gave blood on May 10thJoe AuchterEdie WonnellLes TriboutJack WurstLance Vandeberg

MAY-JUNE 2006 PASSINGS

WILMA KAISER

LT. GARY L. KINGREA, P

The Cocoa Beach Power Squadron donated \$50.00 each to the USPS Education Fund in their memory

OFFICIAL CBPS BOATING EVENTS SCHEDULE 2006

| Event | Date | Day | Contact | Notes |
|---|----------|---------|--------------------------------------|---|
| *Ski Island raftup (North of Locks) | 6/24 | Sat | Duane Balkema 452- 5892 | Casual-Call contact |
| Cocoa Fireworks raftup | 7/4 | Tue | Bud Miller 638-1247 | Some will make it an overnight |
| *Sailboat Island (North of locks) | 7/22 | Sat | John Lynn 537-8438 | Casual-Call contact |
| *Sailboat Island (North of Locks) | 8/26 | Sat | Chuck Horn | Casual-Call contact |
| St Johns River Cruise Astor to Springs | 9/9-10 | Sat/Sun | Open | Great trip for trailer boaters |
| Melbourne Harbor Cruise | 10/20-22 | Fri-Sun | John Lynn 537-8438 | Make reservations enjoy shore power |
| *Ski Island raftup (North of Locks) | 10/28 | Sat | Charlie Dodds 795-7882 | Casual-Call contact |
| *Ski Island raftup (North of Locks) | 11/25 | Sat | Charlie Dodds 795-7882 | Casual-Call contact |
| Sunset Café Cruise | 12/2 | Sat | Charlie Dodds 795-7882 | Boaters & land bound can enjoy lunch |
| Participate in a Christmas Parade | 12/16 | Sat | Balkema 452-5892 Millner 452-0500 | Casual-Call contact |
| *Ski Island raftup (North of Locks) | 12/23 | Sat | Charlie Dodds 7957882 | Casual-Call contact |
| Samson Island Park off Grand Ca- nal-Satellite Beach | 1/20/07 | Sat | Gene Millner 452-0500 | Park has trails, tables dock & Portolets |
| *Ski Island raftup (North of Locks) | 1/27/07 | Sat | Duane Balkema 452-5892 | Casual-Call contact |
| *Ski Island raftup | 2/24/07 | Sat | Duane Balkema | Casual-Call contact |

*Note: Ski & Sailboat Island every 4th Saturday are casual & expected to be good fun talking boats & events. Call & advise if coming-will inform of any others planning on attending. Locations can be changed to satisfy those attending. The contact will have the info on changes. D. Balkema Chairman 452-5892

Coco-Naut's Corner Pam Johnson, President

The Coco-Naut's premature June 2nd meeting held aboard the Sun Cruise Princess provided the perfect opportunity to conduct a brief meeting by introducing our new fundraising ideas, enjoy a good meal, cruise the ocean. and take part in some quick gaming transactions and at the same time taking great pleasure in a truly beautiful day and wonderful company. Everyone involved expressed their appreciation of the outing. Thanks Judy Hutcherson, S for helping us plan this event.

The Coco-Nauts are on hiatus until September 13th. The next meeting will be held at the Merritt Island Library on North Courtenay Road. This will be a brown bag luncheon. Have a great summer everyone.

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July Birthdays:

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7/13 Debra Burleson 7/13 Sue Kneeland 7/15 Marilyn Schmidt 7/15 Angie Vilardebo 7/20 Sandy Schnoonmaker 7/22 Merri Mulkev 7/22 Marian Sweigart 7/27 **Doris Valentine** 7/30 Carmen Adame August Birthdays:

8/05 Janet Bryant 8/06 Yola Bercin 8/07 Genevieve Link 8/08 Peggy Guerrero 8/08 Jane Sebree 8/11 Marilyn Mutchler 8/28 **Barbara Norris** 8/31 Ann McCandless



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BLESSING OF THE FLEET 2006

The Cocoa Beach Power Squadron's annual Blessing of the Fleet was held on Saturday, May 27, 2006 in the Indian River just off Lee Wenner Park in Cocoa. This event has been held for many years in conjunction with National Safe Boating Week, with the purpose of blessing boaters for a safe boating season.

The Weatherman cooperated with us and it was a sunny day with a light breeze. This year, the Blessing took place from Making Memories, owned by Lt. Commander Mike and Lt. Denise Stone, our Executive Officer and Chaplain. It was quite a spectacle, as the actual blessing was performed by Father Thomas Gibson from St. Marx Episcopal Church in Cocoa Village.

A total of 14 boats participated and were led in single file by the US Coast Guard followed by P/C Bud Miller and his crew, Judy Miller. F/Lt. Charlie and Angie Vilardebo, in *Sea Bee*. Bud, who had the challenging task of herding all of the boats around and getting them in formation, was filling in for P/C Duane Balkema, the event's organizer.

Father Gibson, dressed in a white robe and displaying a large gold cross delivered a blessing to each boat individually as it passed by the Blessing Boat. Participants had an opportunity to apply their communication skills as each introduced their boat's name and passengers on board to Father Gibson by VHF radio.

Other Squadron members whose boats participated in the Blessing were L/Cdr. Jay and Lt. Donna Longway, Lt. Gene and Barbara Millner, Harry and Arlene Bestow(who ran a taxi service for Father Gibson), P/C John and Merri Mulkey, John and Dawn Arnoldy(the Mulkey's Daughter and Son in law), John and Susan Lynn, Joe Cordaro and family, Cdr Sandy and L/Cdr Rick Schoonmaker, P/C Duane and Marcia McConkey, Lt.'s Jim and Edie Wonnell and an unknown boat with the name *Seaclusion*. Don't feel bad Jim and Edie, someone usually has to be towed home. Two years ago it was this writer.

Once the Blessing was over, members gathered at the Lee Wenner Park pavilion for a picnic and fellowship. Well at least a few of us did, and the highlight was watching Charlie Vilardebo set a new record for the longest time to cook a couple of hot dogs and sliced onions. <u>Note</u>: Charlie should consider investing in a portable "Pressure Cooker" for future BBQ events.

Those who missed this event still have an opportunity to participate in our next boating event which will be a raft up in the Indian River just South of the Lee Wenner Park to watch the Cocoa Fireworks on July 4. The raft up will start around 5-5:30 PM and fireworks at 9:00 PM. Seeing the fireworks from the water and hearing the music from the Waterfront Park are quite spectacular. Contact myself at 638-1247, or P/C Duane Balkema at 452-5892, for details. Communicate on VHF channel 69.

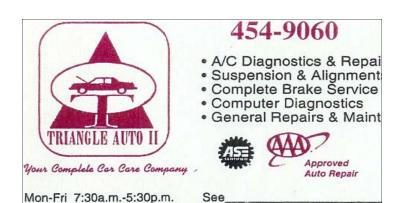
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Linda Feldes President

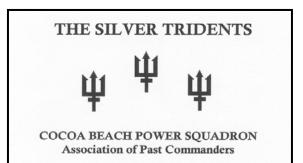
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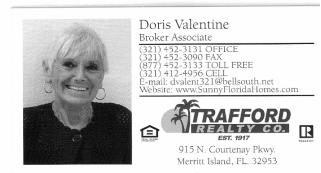
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10TH OF EACH MONTH

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