



# The Soundings

<http://cbps.us>

JUNE 2006  
Volume XLIV, Issue 6



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## In this Issue

|                                |       |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| Membership Meeting             | 1     |
| At the Helm, Bridge Officers   | 2     |
| Executive Officer & SEO Report | 3     |
| Administrative Officer Report  | 4     |
| Boating Article                | 5     |
| Calendar of Events             | 6     |
| Boating Chairman Report        | 7     |
| Boating Activities             | 8     |
| Coco-Nauts Report              | 9     |
| Indian River Cruise            | 10    |
| New Articles                   | 11    |
| Advertisements                 | 12-16 |

## General Membership Meeting

**Tuesday, June 6, 2006, 1900**

**Cocoa Civic Center**

**430 Delannoy Ave., Cocoa Village**

## PUBLIC BOATING FACILITIES IN BREVARD COUNTY

**Charles Nelson, past Director of Parks and Recreation, will discuss the past and future of public boating facilities and picnic pavilions in Brevard County. He will detail existing and proposed boat ramps on public and private land, their capacities, and locations where the launching of portable vessels— such as canoes, kayaks and inflatables— is allowed.**

## DISTRICT 23 TITUSVILLE PICNIC

**As usual, the CBPS had the most members attending the Titusville picnic. There was a total of 33 members present. The weather was beautiful and the food was delicious. Our squadron took home more than their share of prizes. Almost everyone received a prize, except the Johnson's, which won five prizes. Lucky!! The Adames and Millners won three prizes. Several others won two. Our very own commander won the 50-50. It was a very successful turnout for the lucky ones who attended.**

**THE BRIDGE OFFICERS**

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**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

## Commander Sandy Schoonmaker, SN



The month of May is probably one of the busiest months for the Cocoa Beach Power Squadron and in all the planning for the month it was almost forgotten that this was **DUES RENEWAL TIME**. I guess you figured that out when you received your notice in the mail.

As of this writing over half of our 228 members have renewed their membership. That means there are a few of you out there who have not yet renewed, and hopefully will be doing so shortly as the deadline is May 31<sup>st</sup>.

Since Rick is the treasurer, I get to see the renewals as they come in. It is interesting for me to envision the reason for each person's continued membership in the organization. There are many senior members who appear to rejoin out of loyalty to the mission of the squadron since they are no longer able to be actively involved. Many of the renewals come from individuals who are heavily involved in the educational programs offered. Others are among the individuals who attend meetings and social functions on a regular basis. It seems that there are numerous reasons to belong to the squadron and each person appears to have his/her own reason for doing so.

I know that many of the non-renewals will soon be in the mail; procrastination is a very human trait. Unfortunately, there may be a few who do not intend to renew and it is to those that I would like to extend the invitation to reconsider and to give us a chance to find a way to make your membership in our organization meaningful and worthwhile. A look at our Calendar of Events in the Roster should give you an indication of the wide range of possibilities from which to choose. The Board made a deliberate attempt to have a variety of social, educational, boating and civic service events throughout the year. If none of those meets your needs, rejoin, come to a meeting or give us a call and let us know what we can do to get you involved.

As you may know, the membership in USPS is declining nationally, yet Cocoa Beach Power Squadron does not have that problem. I like to think that means we are doing something right! Let's keep that going by having a great renewal year!

As we approach the summer months, many of you will be out of state looking for cooler weather. Those of us staying here have several boating/social events planned that I encourage you to attend. The Blessing of the Fleet (May 27), the Fourth of July Raft-Up, and, of course, our paddle wheel boat excursion aboard the Indian River Queen on Aug. 4<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are going fast and we don't want anyone to miss this great evening dinner cruise. Look to your Soundings (also on-line at CBPS.US) for details.

## **EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

**P/Lt/C Mike Stone, P**

Executive department committee members have expended a great deal of time supporting our community and the Cocoa Beach Power Squadron.

To date, approximately 83 vessel safety inspections have been completed. Lt Charlie Dodds, SN, the Vessel Safety Inspection Committee head, also conducted a training course for new vessel safety examiners. There are now about 16 trained inspectors.

During the month of May, we recognized Safe Boating Week. Cocoa Beach Power Squadron hosted a blessing of the fleet on May 27<sup>th</sup> and members distributed Safe Boating literature to public schools.

We have a lot of members involved in these community services and their efforts are greatly appreciated.

## **SEO REPORT**

**P/D/C Fred Adame, SN**

Our first ever, one-day Boat Smart course on 20 May at Cape Canaveral Hospital should be just about complete by the time you read this. Many members worked hard to plan, publicize and promote this course. Lt Peter Schmidt, P, and P/C John Mulkey, P, made sure all the material and instructors were lined up. Lt Joan Montfort, S, produced and distributed full color Popeye© flyers and Lt Marion Sweigert, AP, spent many hours on the phone and at West Marine® signing up students. Many members also sold texts at the booth up at the CFW Flea Market.

We have six new “weathermen” in the Squadron. That is, we have six members who have taken and passed the USPS Weather course. That’s Joe Derrico, S, Dean Herrold, AP, Charlie Horn, S, Johan Neve, S, Tom Schrader, AP, and Jim Wonnell, AP. That’s not an easy course to take or to teach. Thanks for the great job done by our own Lt/C Rick Schoonmaker, SN, who taught the course.

Instructor Development (ID) has just been completed, taught by another Schoonmaker, this time our commander, Sandy Schoonmaker, SN. We have nine members who took the course at the Cocoa Library and are now awaiting the results of their final exam. You’ll get their names next month. Incidentally, if you have taken ID a few years ago, you may need to be recertified in order to be an instructor for any USPS course. It’s a painless process: just complete a 2-hour recertification program and you’re up to date. We’ll be contacting you when we have scheduled the next recertification session.

Finally, the NEW Piloting course is underway! It’s new in that it integrates the GPS with traditional dead reckoning to produce an ideal way to navigate combining the best of both traditions. We have a total of nine members enrolled with Lt Jack Wurst, AP, as the instructor. It promises to be a good course and is being taught on Monday nights at Wuesthoff Hospital.

Education...it’s what USPS is all about.

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Cape Canaveral, FL 32920

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

As usual, the Administrative staff has been continuously moving ahead with their planning and execution of many recent, near-term and future Squadron's activities and events. Thanks to all of them, plus the additional volunteers, for their commitment and dedication in carrying out set responsibilities on behalf of the membership.

Special recognition and kudos to Lt James Wonnell AP for ensuring the availability and scheduling of our recent and future "speakers" for our General Membership meetings. I'm sure you'll agree we are continuing to have "class acts", and look forward to other future interesting, meaningful and timely information, provided by insightful persons. Thanks Jim.

As you will see in another part of this publication, that dynamic-duo, Lt Doris Valentine and Lt Pamela Johnson, P, jointly sponsored a Wine & Cheese Reception for new members and the executive staff. This CBPS orientation social resulted in some new members signing-up for near-term courses and with plans to attend future Squadron events. Thank you ladies.

Lt Kathryn Wurst, S. is in the process of finalizing the Refreshment responsibilities and obtaining volunteers to assist her in providing refreshments at General Membership meetings. Please offer your assistance by offering to provide some goodies, beverages, or lend a hand in setting up and breaking down. Kay, we appreciate your positive efforts to satisfy the membership's desires for refreshments.

Just a friendly reminder, that Lt Edith Wonnell has scheduled the next Blood Donor date for Wednesday, 12 July.

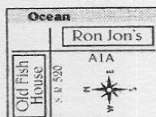
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## WHAT COULD BE BETTER THAN A CBPS BOATING WEEKEND?

Howard & Rhoda Bernbaum

What could be better than a CBPS boating weekend? Why, a boating weekend rendezvous at Barb and Gene Millner's riverfront home, of course.

Five boats with hardy seamen and women converged on the Millner residence, and a few came by land cruiser because they thought the weather was too windy. Those who came by boat were Robert and Adrienne Goldstein (*Restless*) with passengers Fred and Carmen Adame, Duane and Marge Balkema (*Prime Time*) with passengers Larry and Pam Johnson, Rick and Sandy Schoonmaker (*Serenade*) with passenger Doris Valentine, James and Ann O'Malley (*Wild Goose*), and Howard and Rhoda Bernbaum (*Shelley D*) with their daughter Shelley D. Wallace. Land cruisers were Bud and Judy Miller, Harry and Arlene Bestow, and J.P. and Donna Longway.

Gene and Barbara Millner, the gracious hosts, provided a cookout lunch followed by relaxation, games, and friendly conversation. For the interested there were tours of some of the boats docked at the Millner's own private docking area. The folks talked boats and recounted some of their bolder sailing experiences.

As the sun began to lower over the yardarm, cocktail hour commenced, followed by a potluck dinner in the Millner's dining room. All enjoyed an evening of conversation, and then went aboard their boats to contentedly and tranquilly. The following morning the Millner's once again welcomed them into their home for a sumptuous potluck breakfast after which members helped with cleanup, bade their goodbyes and thanks, and then the boats departed for home port.

Though the weather was quite windy coming and going, all the participants had a great weekend. That's what the Power Squadron is all about. Members enjoy their boating because they have learned proper boat handling, and because they meet folks in the squadron with whom they can enjoy their boating experiences. The real icing on the cake is having squadron members like Gene and Barb Millner who provided such a wonderful destination and such gracious hospitality.



## **CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS:**

Check the web site and your email for updates!

### **May;**

**23 - Tuesday, 1830-2100, Executive Board Meeting, Merritt Island Library**

**27 - Saturday, 1030, Blessing of the Fleet, Lee Wenner Park Pavilion in Cocoa**

### **June:**

**02 - Friday, 0930, Coco-Nauts Meeting, Sun Cruz's Surfside Princess, Port Canaveral**

**06 - Tuesday, 1900, General Membership Meeting, Cocoa Civic Center**

**24 - Saturday, Ski Island Raft-up (North of Locks), See Boating Schedule for contacts**

**27 - Tuesday, 1830-2100, Executive Board Meeting, Merritt Island library**

### **July:**

**04 - Tuesday, 1730, Rendezvous/Fireworks Raft-up, Oleander Point/ Lee Wenner area**

**11 - Tuesday, 1900, General Membership Meeting, Cocoa Civic Center**

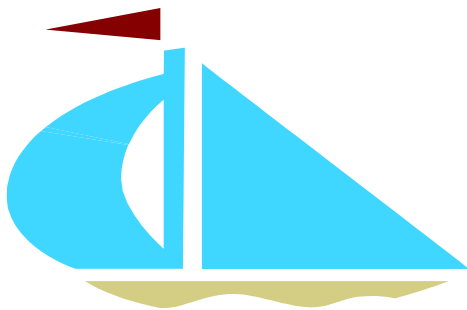
**12 - Wednesday, 0900, Blood Donation, Rockledge Blood Donor Center**

**22 - Saturday, Sailboat Island ( North of Locks), See Boating Schedule for contacts**

**25 - Tuesday, 1830 - 2100, Executive Board Meeting, Merritt Island Library**

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 Chairman Report**

### **P/C Duane Balkema AP**

**“Blessing of the Fleet” Saturday, May 27, 2006 is the biggest boating event of the year for the Squadron. It is great fun and has a good meaning, in that it emphasizes the importance of taking care of your boat and boating safety. If the date is past, then I hope you participated. If not, make the effort to join in the Blessing.**

**Our “Eagle Harbour” Boating event on Saturday/Sunday 4/29/30 was a wonderful success. Our Hosts, the Millners organized quite an event. It started off as a quite windy morning with winds of 20 Knots out of the NE, but calmed thru the day. The Sailboats must have had a great run heading either N or S. Sunday was windy, but the ole Gran Sport got us home. Thanks everyone.**

**The City of Cocoa, “July 4<sup>th</sup> Fireworks Raft up” is our next organized Event. Raft up is on the water in the area of Oleander Point and Lee Wenner Park by 5:30. Its fun and the fireworks are quite close to you. Come on out and enjoy. Stay the night if desired.**

**This note is addressed to those members who may not participate but want to. Several have talked to me about some fear of using your boats in events we plan or on your own. Please, hear me when I say, that fear goes away when you use the boat and gain the confidence in yourself and it. Participation is contagious as is learning in our Boat Maintenance and Operation classes. Your fellow members will help you out if you or your boat has a problem. P/C Frank Sebree is a great friend and member so I know I can talk about him. At last year’s Blessing of the Fleet, he had a problem with his single engine boat that prevented him from powering. I led the Parade past the Blessing Boat and then went back and towed him across as the last boat, receiving the blessing. I doubt if many people even noticed, but we all “Got-er-done” without a problem, and I towed him home as well. Another member and I recently discussed his mounting of an extra “get-home- engine” of 8, 10 or 15 hp, which is an option if fear of an older rig keeps you from boating. Yes, I know there are towing services too!**

**Some of you are new to the area and others new to Florida. Florida has “water” everywhere and it is not crowded anywhere near as bad as up North. Oh, and here it is hard to get lost. Some fabulous trips that are easy and short are: To Capt. Hiram’s; To Kennedy Point Yacht Harbor or Melbourne Yacht Harbor, Samson Island on Grand Canal, Ballard Park or others. Longer easy trips that take planning and overnights are: To Stuart; Daytona, or any coastal cities, To the Keys; To Key West; Across the Florida Canal to the West Coast; Trailer to Astor and then the Springs (on our schedule); Trailer to Bokela and cruise to Cayo Costa in Lee County, (I Just Love this one and planning to do it again in about a month); Trailer to Bahia Honda in the middle Keys (have done this one the most); Trailer a boat into Everglades Park; and Take a Shark River tour. These all end up being real fun life experiences. Talk to any Boating Committee members for help in organizing boat rig changes/improvements or boating trips. We all want to help members become involved.**

## OFFICIAL CBPS BOATING EVENTS SCHEDULE 2006

| Event   | Date     | Day     | Contact                              | Notes                                       |
|---|----------|---------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Blessing of the Fleet                                   | 5/27     | Sat     | Duane Balkema<br>452-5892            | Bring VHF, assemble at<br>10:45 AM          |
| *Ski Island raftup<br>(North of Locks)                  | 6/24     | Sat     | Duane Balkema 452-<br>5892           | Casual-Call contact                         |
| Cocoa Fireworks raftup                                  | 7/4      | Tue     | Bud Miller<br>638-1247               | Some will make it an<br>overnight           |
| *Sailboat Island<br>(North of locks)                    | 7/22     | Sat     | John Lynn<br>537-8438                | Casual-Call contact                         |
| *Sailboat Island<br>(North of Locks)                    | 8/26     | Sat     | Chuck Horn                           | Casual-Call contact                         |
| St Johns River Cruise<br>Astor to Springs               | 9/9-10   | Sat/Sun | Open                                 | Great trip for trailer<br>boaters           |
| Melbourne Harbor Cruise                                 | 10/20-22 | Fri-Sun | John Lynn<br>537-8438                | Make reservations enjoy<br>shore power      |
| *Ski Island raftup<br>(North of Locks)                  | 10/28    | Sat     | Charlie Dodds<br>795-7882            | Casual-Call contact                         |
| *Ski Island raftup<br>(North of Locks)                  | 11/25    | Sat     | Charlie Dodds<br>795-7882            | Casual-Call contact                         |
| Sunset Café Cruise                                      | 12/2     | Sat     | Charlie Dodds<br>795-7882            | Boaters & land bound can<br>enjoy lunch     |
| Participate in a Christmas Parade                       | 12/16    | Sat     | Balkema 452-5892<br>Millner 452-0500 | Casual-Call contact                         |
| *Ski Island raftup<br>(North of Locks)                  | 12/23    | Sat     | Charlie Dodds<br>7957882             | Casual-Call contact                         |
| Samson Island Park off Grand Ca-<br>nal-Satellite Beach | 1/20/07  | Sat     | Gene Millner<br>452-0500             | Park has trails, tables dock<br>& Portolets |
| *Ski Island raftup<br>(North of Locks)                  | 1/27/07  | Sat     | Duane Balkema<br>452-5892            | Casual-Call contact                         |
| *Ski Island raftup                                      | 2/24/07  | Sat     | Duane Balkema                        | Casual-Call contact                         |

**\*Note: Ski & Sailboat Island every 4<sup>th</sup> 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 May 10<sup>th</sup> meeting was held at the Porcher House in Cocoa Village. Not only did we get to hold our monthly meeting at a home that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places but we were also able to glean some historical facts about the whole city from Speedy Harrell, a retired postal worker and an eminent member of the Mosquito Beaters Organization. Loraine Palerno was also available to answer our questions about the Porcher House, including past business activities and future changes for the beautiful home.

Each month the Coco-Nauts hold our meetings on the second Wednesday of the month. Due to a schedule conflict on my part the date will be changed to Friday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>. The meeting will be held aboard the Sun Cruz Casino's "Surfside Princess" ship at the port. The address is 610 Glen Cheek Drive. There is free parking available. Boarding time begins at 10:00 a.m., but with our group having a meeting first, everyone should be there by 9:30 am. A hot meal is included. Because of the Federal Homeland Security Act, everyone planning on attending should bring a valid form of identification in order to be allowed to board the vessel. I hope we have a good turn out. All men members are invited to attend if they wish to join us.

During our meeting we will discuss the particulars of our fundraising activity for the year and also our charitable event that the Coco-Nauts will participate in this year. Come prepared to sign up to volunteer to support all our causes for 2006.

Coco-Nauts with June Birthdays include:

|     |            |
|-----|------------|
| 2nd | Kay Wurst  |
| 4th | Doris Hess |





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## NEW MEMBERS FETED AT WINE & CHEESE PARTY

Membership Involvement Chairman, Lt Pam Johnson, P, and Membership Chairman, Lt Doris Valentine, S, jointly sponsored a Wine & Cheese Party for members who have joined CBPS in the past year.

Doris graciously opened her home to the 33 invited attendees, which included 14 new members, as well as members of the Executive Committee who provided hors d'oeuvres for the afternoon reception.

Hosting this annual event has proven to be a successful means of introducing new members to the many opportunities that membership can provide for them. This was proven true this year with several new members enrolling in educational classes that include Piloting and a two day course to become certified as Vessel Safety Inspectors. In addition they were invited to participate in the calendar of events that have been scheduled in the up-coming months.

Special thanks are extended to Doris and Pam for a job well done.

Cmdr. Sandy Schoonmaker, SN

### NEW MEMBERS

**Thomas A. Kittleman**  
1530 Bream St.  
Merritt Island 32952  
452-5705

**Patricia Meunier E057560 (reinstated mbr.)**  
411 Walnut St. (#3528)  
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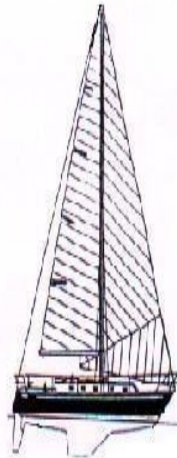
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