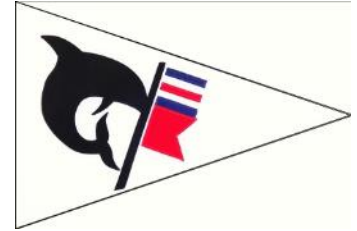




The Soundings



Spring 2017 newsletter

Cocoa Beach Sail & Power Squadron (www.cbsps.org)

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Membership Meetings

Tuesday 2 May @1900 (7 PM)

Tuesday 6 June @ 1800 (6 PM)
Pizza Night

Tuesday 11 July @ 1900 (7 PM)

Tuesday 1 August @ 1900 (7 PM)

Brevard Memorial Veterans Center
400 Sykes Creek Pkwy - Merritt Island
All the details on www.cbsps.org

 Like Us On **facebook**

www.facebook.com/CocoaBeachSPS

Organization's Mission

The Cocoa Beach Sail & Power Squadron, one of 300 nationwide, is a non-profit organization serving boaters' education needs in Central Brevard County since 1967.

The United States Power Squadrons' mission is to: promote recreational boating safety through education and civic activities while providing fellowship for our members.

"Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the Friends"

To join us, contact Membership@cbsps.org

AT THE HELM

Commander Tom Courtney, AP-CN



Well, we are off and running in 2017, our 50th year serving the boating needs of Brevard County through boating education and community service. My thanks to PC John Fitzgerald, JN-CN for passing the command of our squadron to me in fine shape. Under his command the squadron accomplished the following:

CBSPS continued to grow towards our membership goal of 220 in 2020. At last count we have 171 members.

CBSPS inspectors completed 232 VSC's last year. PC Bob Rutigliano, SN-IN and his crew of inspectors will be challenged to better that number in 2017. We are off to a good start with over 50 completed to date.

CBSPS stood out at the latest District Conference by receiving the following awards:

District Activities Award: For the squadron with the best percentage membership participation in various activities

Prince Henry The Navigator: Squadron with greatest percentage of members who achieve AP, JN and N classes.

Advanced Grades Achievement Award: Squadron with highest number of members obtaining advanced grades in past year

Arthur Buswell Award: Presented to P/C Gerard Meunier, SN-CN voted by the judges as the most helpful member in promoting squadron activities during the last year

Felmy Ford Award: Presented to Lt/C George Shapow, N judged to be the best instructor in District 23 the preceding year.

Congratulations to John, Gerard and George for their outstanding contributions last year.

These accomplishments combined with great parties, boating outings, special events and guest speakers made for a wonderful year.

This year the squadron's various committees are planning new outings and events to go along with squadron favorites from past years. Watch for monthly emails from squadron communications officer Pam Johnson or check the events calendar from webmaster Rick Schoonmaker, on our website: CBSPS.org

We will celebrate our 50th anniversary on Sat. Oct 14th. A luncheon at Eau Gallie Yacht Club is being planned. Look for more information via email or on CBSPS.org

The Bridge and I are looking forward to a special 50th year and we encourage every squadron member to attend at least one event during the year.

See you there

Tom

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Lieutenant Commander Jose Casals, AP



I am honored to serve again as a member of our Squadron Bridge in 2017, this time as your Executive Officer (XO). It is a great privilege to serve in an organization where devoted volunteers donate their precious time and efforts to plan and conduct a wide variety of activities in line with the Squadron mission and for the enjoyment of our members. This year, I again rely upon great people leading the various departments under the XO.

Scholarship Fund: Our squadron sponsors the yearly Richard and Mary Jane Schnoor scholarship to a senior undergraduate Florida Institute of Technology in environmental science, meteorology, ocean engineering, or oceanography. More information may be found at: <http://www.cbsps.org/Documents/Scholarship%201.pdf>. Contributions are accepted all year around by the XO.

Vessel Safety Checks (VSC): P/C Robert (Bob) Rutigliano, SN-IN continues to lead the VSC team, excelling in training new vessel examiners and executing a record number of free inspections for the benefit of the local boating community. To put into perspective, his team accomplished 232 inspections in 2016 as compared to 129 inspections in 2013. As of 5 April 2017, they have already accomplished 55 inspections and they are expanding the geographical coverage in partnership with the Titusville and Banana Squadrons. I highly encourage every boat owner in our squadron to have their boat(s) inspected as soon as possible to ensure a safe boating experience during this year. Also, I encourage everyone in our Squadron to notify friends, neighbors and family members in our local area to take advantage of a free VSC at your boat location. Please visit our WEB page at <http://www.cbsps.org/VSC.html> to schedule a free inspection at your boat location.

WEB Page (www.cbsps.org): P/Lt/C Richard Schoonmaker, SN again leads this very important communication tool for our squadron. He ensures that the most up to date information regarding our events is posted as soon as provided by multiple contributors.

Facebook Page: Lt Winifred C. Crawford JN, manages this social media connection and provides up to date information about our Squadron. Members may find our Facebook page by searching for Cocoa Beach Sail and Power Squadron on Facebook

Public Relations Officer (PRO): 1/Lt Patricia Q. Dinkey, S, is responsible for the efficient dissemination of information regarding our Squadron activities to local TV stations, radio stations and publications.

Boat Shows: 1/Lt Charles E. Dinkey, AP, has taken over the leadership role for this responsibility, previously performed excellently by Lt Mike Glynn, JN. His team of volunteers ensures our squadron has a presence in local boat shows, where we offer the public general information about our Squadron including our membership benefits, classes schedule, boating and social activities, and vessel safety checks.

Liaison Lead: P/C J. P. Longway III, P represents our squadron's interests in several activities and organizations within Brevard County.

Radio Technical Officer: Lt/C George Shapow, N continues to serve as our RTO, keeping our members apprised of on-going developments in communications technologies.

SQUADRON EDUCATION OFFICER

Past Commander John FitzGerald, JN-CN



I would like to thank P/C Sandra Schoonmaker, SN for her dedication to Cocoa Beach Sail and Power Squadron's education department the past few years. She is one of the best Squadron Education Officers the United States Power Squadrons has ever seen. She asked me to become Squadron Education Officer after leaving the position of Commander and I accepted. We've had many meetings at her home where she taught me how to do this very demanding position. I really appreciate her confidence in me and I hope to do at least half as well as she has done. Sandra isn't going anywhere though, she will continue to teach our ABC 3 along with P/C John Mulkey, AP-IN. She's offered to continue to mentor me with my duties and I gratefully accepted. The squadron owes a big debt of gratitude for her years of service to us.

Over the past few years I've taken all but one course (which I will rectify ASAP) that the United States Power Squadrons have offered to become a better-more educated boater. I've learned something from every course. We have excellent instructors for all courses offered. I strongly encourage our members to consider taking the advanced courses.

ABC 3 is an excellent start but it is only the beginning. We also offer:

Seamanship: This course provides a foundation of knowledge and skills in boat handling and maneuvering, boat operation, skipper's responsibilities, and boating techniques that will advance your boating enjoyment.

Piloting: The first of the advanced navigational classes focusing on techniques for piloting a boat in coastal and inland conditions.

Advanced Piloting: The final part of the inland and coastal navigation series. This material continues to build on the base developed in Piloting, and includes practical use of additional electronic navigation systems and other advanced techniques for finding position.

Junior Navigation: The first of two courses in advanced off-shore boating topics, with an emphasis on Celestial Navigation in the GPS age, an essential backup when off-shore. It is designed as a practical, how-to course based on sun sight taking using a sextant as a confirmation to GPS navigation.

Navigation: The second part of the study of offshore navigation. It further develops the student's skills and understanding of celestial theory. The student is introduced to additional sight reduction techniques for bodies other than the sun. Learn how to take sights on the Sun, stars and planets.

We also offer Electronic Navigation, Engine Maintenance, Marine Electrical Systems, Marine Communications Systems, Weather, Sail and Cruising and Cruise Planning. These are all excellent courses and you will learn from something from all of them.

Our Piloting course is just finishing up and the Weather course is underway with 11 students. You can't take advantage of those this year however later this year we will be offering Junior Navigation & Electronic Navigation Systems with our award-winning instructor Lt/C George Shapow, N, Cruise and Cruise Planning with our award-winning P/C Gerard Meunier, SN-CN, Seamanship with our award-winning and past squadron education officer P/C Sandra Schoonmaker, SN. There will be signup sheets for these courses on the tables at the meetings so please take advantage of these courses.

Boating Education

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Lieutenant Commander George Shapow, N

Page 1/2



The 2017 – 2018 year is off to a great start.

The **mentoring program** is alive and well again and under the guidance of Gerard Meunier (Chair) and Bob Rutigliano (Ass't). New members have been adopted by their mentors and several have already arranged to get together. One couple is arranging to go out on their mentor's boat for some time on the water.

Operations Training is coming up soon. You'll get a good deal of info on how the squadron operates. This is for new members as well as "old members".

We are having our first '**New Member Social**' at Doug Bisset's home on April 23. The attendees will be those new members still in their first 6 months as well as some of the other new members since 1/1/2016. There will be another social for the balance of the new members at Judy's and my house in early May. Invitations for the first group have gone out.

We had a very successful **Change of Watch Picnic**. There were 56 people in attendance. Despite the late arrival of the grill due to unforeseen difficulties and the cooking by Charlie Dinkey and myself, no-one went home hungry and all seemed to have a good time.

The **kayak outing** was attended by 16 people. There were 3 power boats and 6 kayaks. I couldn't attend myself but I've heard that it was a fun event.

Blessing of the Fleet is coming up on April 22nd. Duane Balkema is in charge. The minister has indicated that he can't do the blessing this year due to another commitment but Duane has a replacement on the hook. Most tasks to be done have been assigned and the AO's for Banana River and Titusville have been contacted.

June 6th is our **Pizza Night** meeting. We will be charging \$5.00 per person as part of our fundraising for the 50th Anniversary celebration. Also on the fundraising side, we will be having our silent auction.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Lieutenant Commander George Shapow, JN

Page 2/2



June 17th is our annual cruise to **Captain Hiram's** Resort. Overnight room rate is \$125.00 when you mention Tom Courtney or the Power Squadron. Please come and join us by boat or car. It really makes for a very enjoyable weekend.

We have a visit to the **planetarium** planned on May 17th which is always a good time. Sign up sheets for the planetarium and Blessing of the Fleet are with Doris and she will be happy to take your admission money.

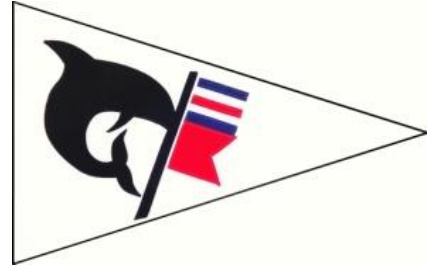
On July 15th we're cruising up **Mosquito Lagoon** to Goodrich Seafood Restaurant for lunch. They have very good food and a pleasant atmosphere right on the lagoon. Come by boat or car for good food and comradery.

This past meeting we heard from our own Duane Balkema as he regaled us with tales of some of his sailing exploits. He really gave an interesting presentation.

Future speakers:

May 2 nd	Richard will be back to talk to us about shark avoidance and his Cuba sailing experience
July 11 th	Tim Osborn from "NOAA Office of Coast Survey".
August 1 st	Tom & Julie Hoffman will talk to us about their experiences while on the "Great Loop"

Respectfully Submitted,
Lt/C George Shapow, N



Cocoa Beach Sail & Power Squadron

Welcome to our 2017 new members:

		Joined	Location	Boat type	Boat Name	Mentor
Laurie & Roy	Yates	4/4	Merritt Island	Power	Lorelei	Upcoming
John & Debra	Jodts	3/2	Titusville	None yet		Tom Courtney
Linda & Gregory	Halpin	2/23	Merritt Island	Power	?	Tom Guthrie
Mario & Mario O.	Miranda II	1/29	Orlando	35' power	?	Jose Casal
Theresa & Hector	Santiago	1/29	Cocoa	21' power	?	Bob Rutigliano
Karen & Arthur	Hitch	1/29	Cocoa Beach	42' Trawler	Bucket List	Rick Garwood
Laroy	Taylor Jr.	1/29	Melbourne	17' power	?	Jim Mannon
Michael	Galiszewski	1/16	Merritt Island	Power	Aries	Jim Mannon

2017
**SPACE COAST BLESSING OF THE FLEET
 AND PICNIC AT THE LEE WENNER PAVILION**



The 2017 Blessing of the Fleet will be a 3 Squadron blessing consisting of the Banana River, Cocoa Beach, and Titusville Sail and Power Squadrons.
All Boaters May Participate!

**COME HAVE YOUR BOATS BLESSED
 FOR A TROUBLE FREE BOATING SEASON!**

WHERE: In Water Off Riverfront Park, Cocoa, FL

DATE: Saturday, April 22, 2017

TIME: 11:00 AM (Arrive at 10:30 AM)

FEE: \$10.00 For Picnic and Side Dish to Share

At 10:30 boats will circle up on Indian River just South of the HWY 520 Bridge, tune VHF radios to Channel 71 and wait for instructions. There will be a lead boat for us to follow. Maintain spacing of 50 to 100 feet between boats. As you pass the Pastor, give your vessel name and crew over VHF 71. Any questions please contact Cdr Tom Courtney: cdr@cbpsps.org



Visit to the PLANETARIUM



WHERE: Eastern Florida State College Planetarium & Observatory
1519 Clearlake Rd Cocoa, Florida
(321)-433-7373

WHEN: Wednesday, MAY 17, 2016 @ 1800 Hrs.

PRICE: \$ 12.00 P.P. - \$ 10.00 under 12
Payments to Event Coordinator
Doris Valentine (321) 452-1835

*****CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN WILL LOVE THIS EVENT*****

**IMAX PRESENTATION: MYSTERIES OF EGYPT
NARRATED BY OMAR SHARIF**

**PLANETARIUM SHOW: THE BEATLES LASER EXPERIENCE
BEER, WINE & SOFT DRINKS WILL BE SERVED!!**



PLEASE BRING A TRAY OF FINGER FOOD TO SHARE WITH OTHERS.





***DRAGON POINT
RAFT UP/OVERNIGHT TRIP***



WHERE: Indian River West of the
South End of Merritt Island

COORDINATES: Lat:28.145N,
Lo: -80.607W

DATE: Saturday, May 20, 2017

TIME: Raft Up By 1:00 PM
(Arrange departure point and time accordingly)

LETS EAT: 1:30 PM

(Several people will have grills)

DEPARTURE: Determined By Condition
Or Spend The Night On The Hook

CONTACT: Duane Balkema (321)452-5892
or DBalk@CFL.RR.COM

PIZZA PARTY

WHERE: BREVARD VETERAN'S CENTER

WHEN: TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 2017

TIME: 6:00 PM

COST: \$5:00 PER PERSON
(Soft Drink and Water will be Provided)





COCOA BEACH SAIL & POWER SQUADRON CRUISE TO CAPTAIN HIRAMS RESORT

**1580 US HWY 1
SEBASTIAN, FLORIDA 32598
772-388-8588 or www.hirams.com**



WHEN: SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 2017

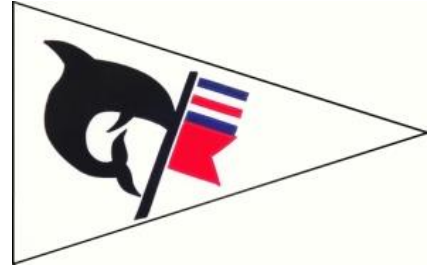
**Plan on arriving at 4:00 pm and join us at the Cocktail Party
at 5:00 PM in Tom Courtney's Room
Make your own reservations at the Hotel/Dock**

HOTEL RATE: \$125 PER NIGHT (Reservation Code: ("Tomc17"))
Dockage is \$1/foot overnight (\$10.00 extra if shore power is needed). No charge for dockage if you are not staying over. There are a variety of slips for boats from 16' to 50'. The beam on slips is 15' and the draft is 4' of water.

BOOK EARLY TO GET A SLIP FOR THE NIGHT!

DETAILS: After Happy Hour, Eat together at Captains Hiram's Restaurant at 6:00 PM then party the night away at their Sandbar.
If you can't come by boat or the weather is bad, you may drive
It's rain or shine!

**QUESTIONS: DUANE BALKEMA (321)452-5892
or EMAIL at DBalk17@cfl.rr.com**



Cocoa Beach Sail & Power Squadron

CRUISE TO MOSQUITO LAGOON



When: July 15, 2017

**Meet: West end of the Barge Canal in the Indian River at 0900
Cruise to Mosquito Lagoon through Haulover Canal
and up the Lagoon to Goodrich Seafood Restaurant.**

Time: Lunch 1200 hr.

Anyone wanting to drive there to have lunch with us, the address is:

253 River Road in Oak Hill

**For additional details or if you don't have a boat and would like to participate, contact Duane Balkema at (321) 452-5892
or George Shapow at (321) 745-2471.**

SECRETARY**Lieutenant Commander Theresa FitzGerald, N**

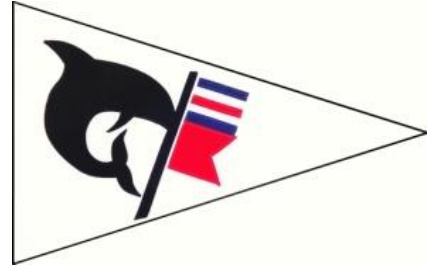
Happy Birthday to all those born in April, May, June, July and August!

P/R/C Carmen Adame, JN
 Michele Anderson, AP
 Howard Bernbaum, SN
 P/Lt/C Rhoda Bernbaum
 Harry Bestow, S
 Susan Blackledge
 Joseph Brand
 P/Lt/C Debra Burleson, S
 Lt/C Jose Casals, AP
 Cdr. Thomas Courtney, AP-CN
 Joseph Donnelly, S
 Bert Eisbrenner, P
 Lt/C Theresa FitzGerald, N
 Leonard Frasco, S
 Lt Nancy Garwood, AP
 Richard Garwood, AP
 1/Lt Michael Glynn, JN
 Joseph Greene, AP
 Margaret Guerrero, S
 Marlene Guthrie, S
 Thomas Guthrie, S
 Gregory Halpin
 P/C Louis Harlow, SN
 Sandry Hazlett, S
 Tracy Hazlett
 John Hedegaard, P
 Sarah Hedegaard
 Deborah Henry, AP

Karen Hitch
 Maryann Infusimo
 Debra Jodts
 Lt David Keane, JN
 Nancy Keane, AP
 Lt/C Marsha Kirkwood, S
 P/C Susan Kneeland, SN
 P/C Edward Kydd, SN
 Genevieve Link, AP
 P/C J. P. Longway III, P
 Norma Mannon
 Michael McNamara, S
 Mario Miranda II
 Lorraine Morell
 D/Lt/C John Mulkey, AP
 P/Lt/C Paul Mycoskie, S
 Manuel Oviedo, S
 Carissa Partin
 William Pesci
 Dennis Peterson, SN
 Francesca Ragusa, AP
 Paul Ragusa, AP
 Cintia Ramos
 Hector Santiago
 Theresa Santiago
 1/Lt Diana Schommer, P
 P/C Sandra Schoonmaker, SN
 Leonard Senibaldi, SN

1/Lt Judy Shapow, S
 Peter Skedsvold, S
 Natalie Small, S
 David Smith, S
 Rex Stone, P
 Wilson Suarez, AP
 Lt Marion Sweigart, AP
 Laroy Taylor Jr
 P/D/C Lester Tributout, SN
 Lt Doris Valentine
 Charles Vilardebo
 Julie Wilbanks, S
 William Wilkening, S
 Edmund Zahn

If you have any changes to your e-mail, address, etc.
 please send them to me at:
Secretary@cbpsps.org.
 Thank you



Cocoa Beach Sail & Power Squadron

New Donation Program

Many of you probably use Amazon.com, as I do, to shop for many things. I just registered for a relatively new program of theirs called **Amazon Smile** which donates 0.5% of most purchases to a charity of your choice at no cost to the buyer.

While doing so, I found out that one can list one's own Power Squadron as a non-profit charity; so I took the liberty to add Cocoa Beach Sail & Power Squadron as my charity of choice. From now on, I log into Smile.amazon.com instead of Amazon.com to buy stuff exactly as before. I have replaced Amazon.com to Smile.amazon.com in my favorites so it is automatic.

All one has to do is register into the program as follows:

Go to Smile.Amazon.com

Click on "Getting Started"; a page comes up asking you to select a charity.

Go to "Or pick your own charitable organization", type "United states Power Squadrons, Merritt" & enter.

Click on "Select" and go shopping.

Et voila... from now on, CBSPS will get a donation every time I buy at Amazon.

Hope many of you will do this for the betterment of our squadron.

All the Best,
Gerard
Editor



COCO-NAUTS CORNER

Denise Stone, President

In February The Coco-Naut Friendship Luncheon was a grand success. It was such fun seeing everyone's wedding photos and all the salads were wonderful! Plus we gained 2 new members at the event!

Our upcoming meeting schedule is:

April 19, 11:30 AM- Sonny's BBQ on SR3, Merritt Island

May 17, 2PM-4PM- Rockledge Gardens, US1, South Rockledge
Note time change! Bring a finger food. We will be making Terrariums.
The cost is \$25 each. We need a minimum of 10 gals
or this will be cancelled.

June 21, 11:30AM Olive Garden, SR520, Merritt Island

Our major fundraiser is coming up on August 26th & 27th. We should have our \$5 tickets to sell in the first week of August. More info will follow on this important event.

Happy birthdays to all those born in the spring! I hope each of you have a wonderful birthday!



*Come for the Boating Education...
...Stay for the Friends SM*

**District 23 Newsletter
D/C Ron Gagen, Sr., SN**



Again, I want to thank all of you for your confidence in me. I have been given a great bridge and we will work well together.

My biggest goal is to continue to improve on communications, especially between all of our squadrons of District 23. To help with this I am asking all Squadron Commanders to have their news letters sent to all Commanders, Secretaries and Editors of all 8 squadrons and also to all District Bridge Officers and I ask that they distribute them to all of their respective members. Any functions or classes that are not in your newsletter should be sent separately in the same manner. Let's make our District One United and Number One. Having access to all of the Squadron Newsletters will help us to see what is going on in all of District 23 and may increase participation throughout our District.

Let's have fun this year starting with the **district spring picnic on May 13**. Titusville does such a great Job! There will be flyers sent out soon from your District Administrative Officer. Mark your calendar!!

I am here for you. Send me any questions, gripes, or suggestions you may have. Don't hold back. Let's work together and remember communications, communications, communications.

Thank you,
D/C Ron Gagen, Sr., SN

Please support our Friends !

CF C048308

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**CBSPS members are invited to meet and eat
each Wednesday at 1130 at The Cozy Corner Café**

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Breakfast & light lunches available.



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 Facebook.com/FloridaDockLife

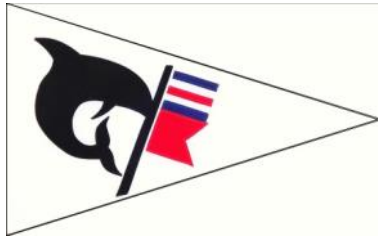


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Contact
Friends@CBSPS.org or 321- 452-5892



**Spring
2017
Issue**

COCOA BEACH SAIL & POWER SQUADRON

PO Box 540651
Merritt Island, FL 32954

Articles and comments welcome
Submit to: Editor@cbsps.org

Soundings on the Web:
www.cbsps.org/Soundings.html

SOUNDINGS DEADLINE:
1st Friday of April, August & December

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