

The Soundings



Winter 2017 newsletter

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

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Organization's Mission

The Cocoa Beach Sail & Power Squadron, one of 400 nationwide, is a non-profit organization serving Boater's 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 John FitzGerald, JN-CN



The holiday season is here and 2016 is ending. Cocoa Beach Sail & Power Squadron had another outstanding year. I hope you all enjoyed the events we had this year. Our bridge officers with their committees, as well as the executive committee, dedicated enormous time to make things flow smoothly. The commitment our members have towards the squadron is what makes it the best in District 23.

Our new bridge and committees will be forming in the next two months. The planning for the 2017 boating and entertainment events will be taking place. New ideas are always welcome and encouraged. If you have a guest speaker you think would be interesting, a boat outing you would like to see happen or an entertainment event/location you would like to see on the schedule next year, please bring it to the attention of the next administrative officer. New ideas keep thing fresh.

Next year is a very special time for our squadron, we'll be 50 years old. A celebration will be planned during the year to celebrate this monumental event.

Finally, I wanted to close the year by thanking you for privilege of being the Commander of our squadron. It was an honor to serve our great organization in this role and look forward to the upcoming year. Thank you to all the officers and committee members who made this year so successful. It takes a team to do this and I had an excellent team. Please come to the Change of Watch on Saturday 11 February 2017 to welcome the incoming Bridge members.

Have a great holiday season and let's look forward to a great 2017.

News from National: Call for Volunteers!

Several USPS national committees are looking for volunteers with these technical skills: graphic design, desk-top publishing, technical editing, proofreading, marketing and social media. We need volunteers who have expertise in Adobe Creative Suite (InDesign, Illustrator, PhotoShop), Microsoft Office (Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Publisher) and CorelDRAW. Boating expertise is not required: This is a great opportunity to learn while sharing your technical skills to help USPS develop products and services that benefit squadrons and the boating public. Committee chairs will work with you to ensure assignments are clear and respect your time availability. Contact: Nominating Committee chairman, R/C Bill Selden V, AP, bill@cpdean.com, 804-240-1401.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Lieutenant Commander Tom Courtney, AP-CN



As 2016 comes to a close we can look back on this past year and remember the many good times and exciting events we shared as a squadron. From education classes, boat outings, picnics, Planetarium trip, District picnic and conferences, boat shows, guest speakers, roadway clean ups, VSC events, fund raisers, and food events there were many opportunities to get together and strengthen old relationships while building new ones.

We continued to grow as a squadron when the District is shrinking.

We have surpassed 230 Vessel Safety Check inspections.

Our Scholarship Fund is thriving, thanks to your donations, the Coco-Nauts and our recycling efforts.

Our web site and Facebook pages are loaded with up to date Squadron activities, pictures of events and upcoming education classes and events.

We continue to recruit members and educate the public thru participation in boat shows and education classes.

Our liaison officer keeps us informed of upcoming county and community activities.

Our Public Relations Officer has updated our literature.

Our Radio Technical Officer is available to assist as needed.

I want to thank all of our Squadron members for their participation and I especially want to thank the committee chairs and members for their time and effort in helping our Squadron to be a fun place to park your boat at.

It has been my pleasure to be your Executive Officer this past year.

Remember, Cocoa Beach Sail & Power Squadron is a terrific place to dock up to. See you at our next event.

Happy Holidays Tom Courtney

SQUADRON EDUCATION OFFICER

Past Commander Sandra Schoonmaker, SN Page 1/2



All things come to an end and we are soon saying good-bye to another year. The SEO will also be saying good-bye to the position held for four years. And as 2016 has been a great year for Cocoa Beach Sail and Power Squadron, so too has it been a great year for the Education Department.

While statistics may seem dull they do substantiate success and failure; the following is evidence of the former:

Seamanship: 20 students passed
Advanced Piloting: 6 students passed
Junior Navigation: 9 students passed
Cruise Planning: 10 students passed
Communication Systems: 8 students passed
Navigation Systems: 7 students passed

Sail: 1 student home studied and passed

Engine Maintenance: 9 students passed

The soon to be departing SEO accepts the responsibility for having arranged for this outstanding record, but takes no credit for the results. The primary credit goes to the instructors: P/Lt/C Richard Schoonmaker, SN; P/D/C Fred Adame; Lt Dennis Peterson, SN; P/C George Hess, SN; P/C Gerard Meunier, SN; Lt/C George Shapow, JN; Lt Garry Pepin, AP. However, the enthusiasm and dedication of their students cannot be discounted, and each of them deserves the respect of the squadron for their achievements.

In addition to these completed classes, the six students in the on-going Navigation Class under the tutelage of P/C Lou Harlow, SN have completed their sight folders which were reviewed by P/Lt/C Richard Schoonmaker, SN. The students' final hurdle will be plotting a cruise using celestial navigation and GPS. Their courses over the years have included all of the navigation classes and for several, all of the electives,. Their eventual success will be an additional credit to the instructors, many of whom have not been mentioned above since their classes were taught in previous years.



SQUADRON EDUCATION OFFICER

Past Commander Sandra Schoonmaker, SN Page 2/2



ABC is the public boating class scheduled by D/Lt/C John Mulkey, AP, the Chair of Local Board of Boating. This year, 21 students successfully completed this class and several became members of CBSPS.

Seldom recognized roles in the Education Department are the Chairs of Advanced Grades and Elective Courses. P/C Lou Harlow, SN and Lt George Guerrero, S distributed the class materials and administered the tests for each of the classes this past year.

And so 2016 ends and 2017 arrives and the Education Department is all ready for another set of classes. Marine Electrical Systems and Piloting are scheduled to begin in January with several students already enrolled. Enrollment will end on January 3, 2017 and can be accomplished via the website: cbsps.org.

The SEO Education Department will continue to be one of the integral parts of the success of CBSPS. Under the direction of soon to be P/C John FitzGerald, JN (soon to be SN) will go the scheduling of classes for the 2017-2018 squadron year.

Don't miss our first 2017 meeting Tuesday 3 January

We will have the USPS Bullex Fire Extinguisher System

Come and get USPS certified Starting at 1830 (6:30 PM)



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Lieutenant Commander Jose Casals, AP



This Fall Quarter was an exciting period where our Committees excelled in conducting multiple activities in support of our CBSPS members.

Our membership, remains strong at 166 active members as of December 2016 and after the usual adjustment of new members joined via the ABC Class.

Our Social Committee kept us well fed and entertained with the Italian Night in September, the Egg Nog in December and they also orchestrated the Holiday Party, which was a total success. This year the event took place at the Doubletree Hotel by Hilton in Cocoa Beach and was well attended. Our Coco-Nauts made beautiful decorations resembling Holiday deers make of cork plugs. Everyone was able to take one home. The food, drinks and music were excellent and many enjoyed dancing the lively music played by DJ Champion.

The Egg Nog Party was also enjoyed by over 50 members and we were entertained by DJ Champion also. Great music, great food, great Egg Nog and lots of happy encounters and memories.

The Boating Committee successfully executed the Bird Island boat trip in September which was attended by 28 participants in 11 boats. Everyone enjoyed a very nice day of sun, good food and great friends. The event scheduled for October was cancelled because of Hurricane Mathew, and the event in November was the Ft. Lauderdale Boat show which was attended by a few members carpooling together. The raft-up to view the Cocoa Beach Parade in December was cancelled due to rough weather. The next upcoming event will be in January 2017 with our yearly cruise to Sunset Grill on the Banana River, south of the Rt 520 Bridge.

The Coco-Nauts hosted a fantastic Harvest Party and was also well attended. More details on the Coco-Nauts report by their President Denise Stone.

Also during this Quarter, a successful silent Auction was conducted to raise funds to benefit the Veterans Memorial Center. This Auction was masterfully coordinated by Charley and Pat Dinkey. Many thanks for the outstanding effort.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Lieutenant Commander Jose Casals, AP



Speakers for this Quarter included Ms. Amanda Sava, CBSPS Scholarship Winner from Florida Institute of Technology and Mr. Bob Atkins, representing the Citizens for Florida Waterways Organization. Our upcoming speaker in January 2017 will be Mr. Johnny Dokins from Customs & Border Patrol located at Port Canaveral.

It has been a great pleasure for me to meet so many nice people during my tenure as Administrative Officer. My most sincere thanks to the Chairs and members of the Committees that graciously volunteered hours of their time to make this a very successful year. In particular, I thank Doris Valentine, Social Committee, Duane Balkema, Boating Committee, Charlie Dinkey, Membership Committee and Assistant AO, Denise Stone, Coco-Nauts President, Pam Johnson, Communications Officer, Rick Schoonmaker, Website Manager and Gerard Meunier, Soundings Editor. I am grateful to my mentors John FitzGerald and Tom Courtney who helped me along the way this year.



Early risers Vessel Examiners George Shapow, Bob Rutigliano, Ron Raphael, Charles Dinkey and Gerard Meunier on duty at Grant's boat ramp with 17 more vessels checked for safety.



Saturday 5 November, a busy day. Some members at the Ft Lauder-dale show admired the 5-outboard machine (or was it the 5" heeled show attendant) while others carried another load of aluminum.

Boating Report Past Commander Duane L. Balkema, AP

We had a Hurricane on morning of October 7, 2016, the worst of it at my home sitting 25 feet from Banana River was 1 to 4 AM. I watched TV during that time and found wind noise the loudest outside. The TV said it was 106 MPH at KSC. Believe thats back in off the water. One of the loud bangs I heard outside was one corner of the Boat Lift Cradle Cable letting loose. The nose of my 24 foot Chaparral Boat went down into the water. The boat slid forward off the Cradle, then into the water further and the Aluminum Cradle beat the boat the rest of the night. All of this unknown to me as I had Shutters blocking the windows so could not see outside without opening a door and I am not going to do that.

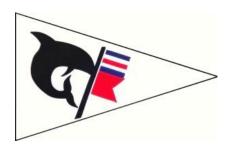
At 6:30 AM, my dogie wants to take a walk. My neighbors have all evacuated Merritt Island so we are alone, with electric, TV and the storm now hitting Daytona. We still have 35 MPH winds going outside but we take a walk along our Sea Wall and the neighbors. Dogie is excited and I am really looking things over, but not out. Lots of limbs down but no house damage, then I look to docks. The nose of my Chaparral is all that is out of the water and the waves are really banging it. Dogie and I run out on the dock and I am in shock.

I ran back to the house and told Margie to look at the boat. Wow! I say, "I am going to get to work raising it to get the salt water out of the Chevrolet/Volvo Engine." Margie thinking well says, "No, call your insurance first." I figure there is not a chance. I ring up my insurer of many years, GEICO/Seaworthy. They answered, they routed me to Catastrophic Claims. A lady answers and gives me a Claims Number and says you do nothing. We will get the boat up and determine its condition. What about Salt Water in engine? She says, do not worry, we will raise it today and pickle it. In thinking with thousand of claims, what is the chance!!!

Well, They have Towboat US there the next day, Saturday, by truck with pumps and air bags. I offer some advise, but am allowed to watch mostly. Occasionally they ask me for things. At 4 hours, they finally go under it and plug holes which then allows the 2 Trash Pumps running full tilt to start bringing it up. Aw, Good!!! Then a Red Towboat US Boat drives to my dock. Two Channel 9 ABC guys jump off onto the dock without permission and immediately start filming the boat, its condition and all of us. Wow. They watch and film for an hour when finally the boat is deemed ready to tow. Towboat US guys ask for my trailer which I provide. The Announcer Channel 9 ABC guy asks if I am the owner? Can they film me? They have for the last hour. Will I allow an interview. They asked me many questions, which I answered. Then that quickly, they got back on the boat and off went my boat under tow. A clipped interview is on the 11 PM news that night. The CDR copied it and put on our web. The other fellows left with my trailer, asking me if they could put the Boat Rig in my yard for awhile.

Many conversations with GEICO CAT TEAM, but my boat was totaled. My policy was "Agreed Value" less 10% Named Storm amount. Never had I dealt with an insurance claim even though I had owned over 25 boats since I turned 15 years old. But my company could not have been better and its over. I understand my former boat is at Big Jims in Melbourne and is owned by a Massachusetts Salvage company. What an experience this was. I was untrusting but the checks came thru. This is my report and I am sticking to it. Whew...





Cocoa Beach Sail & Power Squadron

Cruise to Sunset Grill

Saturday, January 21, 2017

Meet up just south of 520 Bridge on the Banana River at 1130 hrs.

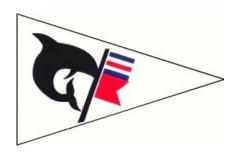
Cruise to Sunset Grill on Cocoa Beach for lunch
After lunch cruise south along Cocoa Beach
then exit thru Houseboat Cut and navigate back home

If you don't have a boat and would like navigate with us, please contact Duane Balkema @ (321) 452-5892 to coordinate with other boaters.

You may also drive to the restaurant and join us for lunch at @ noon.

Sunset Grill is located at 500 W. Cocoa Beach Causeway (ST RD 520) in Cocoa Beach, on the water on your right coming from Merritt Island.





Cocoa Beach Sail & Power Squadron

Samsons Island Park Boat Outing Saturday 18 February 2017





Cruise to Samsons Island by boat and raft up at the Dock for Lunch and Exploring Arrive by 1200 / Lunch at 1300

COME AND HAVE A GREAT TIME!
Bring your own lunch and drinks
Tables at the park.

Contact P/C Duane Balkema at 321-452-5892

SECRETARY Lieutenant Commander Theresa FitzGerald, JN



Happy Holidays to all, and a very happy birthday to all born in January, February and March!

John Aksel
Mark Anderson, AP
Robert Atkins, AP
Douglas Bisset, P
Robert Blackledge
Lt Robert Brown, AP
Larry Burleson, S
Lt David Collins, JN
Ralph Crawford, P
Lt Winifred Crawford, JN
Eulogia Delgado
Philip Delgado
Lt Patricia Dinkey, S
Hilary Eisbrenner, P
Cdr John FitzGerald, JN-CN

P/C Kermit Forbes, AP
Kristina Harlow
P/C George Hess, SN
Russell Jamieson
Lt Pamela Johnson, P
Charles Kilgore, AP
Donna Longway, S
Patrick Lusk, AP
Kevin Luttrell, S
Barbara Milner, S
Eugene Milner, AP
Marc Montfort
Linda Mook
Twila Nahama, JN
Tamara Oviedo, S

P/C Albert Pappas, SN
Lt Garry Pepin, AP
Ronald Raphael, S
Clifford Schommer, P
P/Lt/C Richard Schoonmaker,
SN
Beth Skedsvold, S
Johannes Small, S
Gail Stalnaker, S
Doris Switsky, S
Dianne Tighe, S
Evelyn Tribout
P/C Lance Vanderberg, AP

Thank you to the hardworking team that spent so many hours this year working on secretary department duties including:

Lt Pat Dinkey, S Assistant Secretary

Lt Denise Stone, P Historian

Lt Pam Johnson, P Communications Officer

P/C Michael Stone, AP

P/Lt/C Richard Schoonmaker, SN

DB2000 Officer

Roster Officer

P/C Gerard Meunier, SN-CN Yearbook Officer and Editor of *The Soundings*

P/C Duane Balkema, AP Advertising Officer

P/Lt/C Marilyn Flanigan, P
Lt Robin Courtney, AP
Photography
Lt Nancy Garwood, AP
Photography

Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee of the Cocoa Beach Sail & Power Squadron presents the following candidates for the 2017-2018 elected positions. All have agreed to serve if elected.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Commander:

Executive Officer:

Administrative Officer (AO):

Assistant AO:

Cdr Tom A. Courtney, AP-CN

Lt/C Jose M. Casals, AP

Lt/C George Shapow, JN

1/Lt Judy Shapow, S

Squadron Educational Officer (SEO) P/C John J. FitzGerald, JN-CN
Assistant SEO: 1/Lt Michael J. Glynn, JN
Secretary: Lt/C Theresa FitzGerald, JN
Assistant Secretary, 1/Lt Patricia Q. Dinkey, S
Treasurer: Lt/C Marsha E. Kirkwood, S

Assistant Treasuer: 1/Lt Donna L. Longway, S

Members at Large:

P/C Susan Kneeland, SN
P/C J. P. Longway III, P
P/C Gerard Meunier, SN-CN
1/Lt Charles E. Dinkey, AP-IN

RULES COMMITTEE

Chair

Asst Chair / 2 yrs

Member / 3 yrs

P/Lt/C Eugene B. Millner, AP

P/C Michael A. Stone, AP

P/C Kermit Forbes, PC

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Chair. P/C Sandra Schoonmaker, SN

Asst Chair / 2 yrs Douglas Bisset, P

Member / 3 yrs. P/C Lance H. Vandeberg, AP

AUDITING COMMITTEE

Chair P/C Marion Miller, JN

Asst Chair / 2 yrs D/Lt/C John F. Mulkey, AP-IN

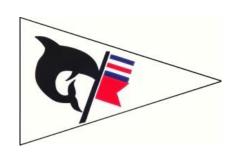
Member / 3 yrs. P/C Lou Harlow, SN

Section 11.1 of the CBSPS by-laws states: "candidates for elective positions to be voted upon at the annual meeting may be nominated (1) by the Nominating Committee as herein provided or (2) by petition in writing signed by at least five active members in good standing and filed with the secretary at least 15 days before the date of election."

Respectfully submitted

P/C J.P. Longway, III, P - Douglas Bissett, P - P/C Lance H. VandeBerg, AP





Cocoa Beach Sail & Power Squadron cordially invites you to the 50th annual Change of Watch

Saturday 11 February 2017

Social Time: 1100 (cash bar) Program: 1130 & 1300

Lunch: 1200

Venue: Port Canaveral Yacht Club

910 Mullet Road

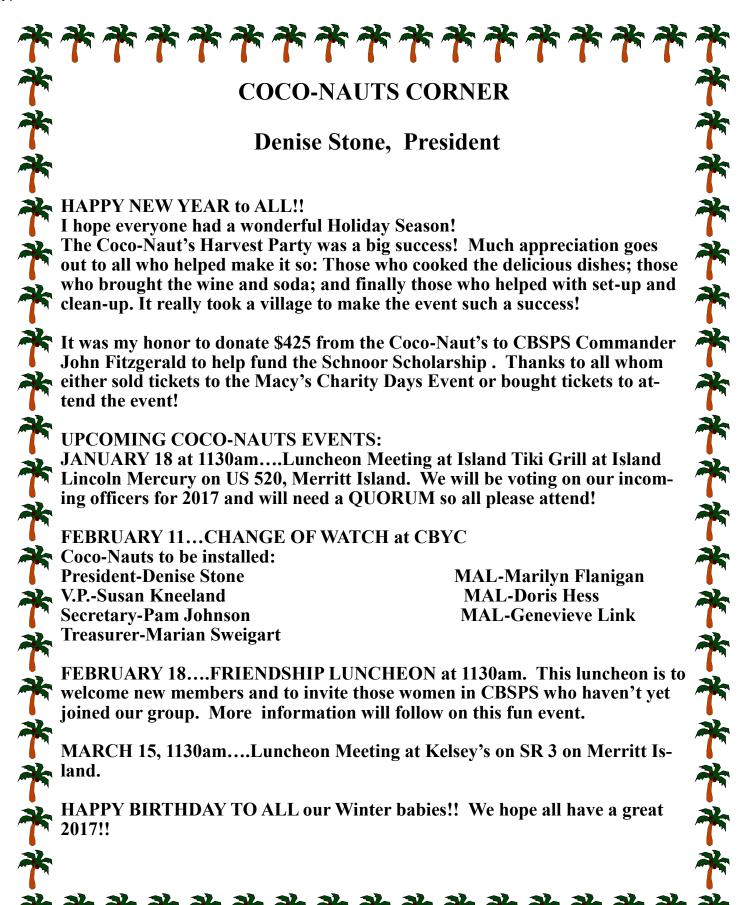
Cape Canaveral, FL 32920

Cost: \$30.00 pp. Limited space available.

Menu:

Unsweetened tea, coffee & water
Rolls & butter
Tossed salad
Chicken Picatta
Rice & green beans
Key lime pie or
Sugar free ice cream & cookie

RSVP and pay by 30 January 2016 Contact: P/C Susan Kneeland, SN 13 Vanguard Drive, Cocoa, FL 32926-8765 Please make checks payable to CBSPS





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

District 23 Newsletter DAO Jim Suber, AP-CN



Greetings, I would like to first THANK the Daytona Sail and Power Squadron for the hard work in showing us a great time for the Fall Conference. The Holliday Inn Express did a fantastic job and the conference was a great time. I will tell you I truly believe we have "REAL PIRATES" in our ranks!

The Spring Conference is developing and going to be another success story from my perspective. The Squadrons coming together and shared the responsibilities as a District will create a great time. I am honored to announce Lucy Hixenbaugh will serve as our conference chairperson and with her knowledge and experience I feel we are lucky to have Lucy step up. Please keep an open mind and accept a role for your squadron. She will be moving some responsibilities around at the request of the Squadrons but the basic system will continue. We are not going far! We are going back and stay in Daytona but move to the beach side at the Oceanside Inn Ocean Front Hotel, 1909 Atlantic Ave., Daytona Beach Shores, FL, 32118. Web site: oceansidedaytona.com. The Conference will be March 31 and April 1 with the meeting and change of watch April 1. I hope all will start making plans now.

BUT!!! We have a lot more to do before we get to the Spring Conference.

The National meeting will be in Orlando Florida 19-26 February, 2017 at the Rosen Centre. We hope all make an attempt to at least attend some of the days. Most of the committee meetings will be on Thursday and Friday and the Expo, meeting and seminars will mostly be on Friday. The National Meeting will be Saturday February 25. The District is working on having a hospitality room so we can insure the USPS world knows who we are and the fact they are sitting in the middle of our conference. We will be reaching out to each Squadron to assist in the needs of the room either by donation of libation and food our monetary donations. The District budget will cover some of the expenses.

Continues....



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

District 23 Newsletter DAO Jim Suber, AP-CN



Back to District Business!!... We will have our WINTER COUNCIL in Daytona Beach Florida at the ARC of Volusia Center, 100 Jimmy Hugar Circle, Daytona Beach Florida, 32117 JANUARY 14, 2017. The Daytona Beach Squadron will again serve as hosts and they will have breakfast before the meeting starting around 0830 and will coordinate a lunch for a minimum cost. We will do a training session for all of the Squadron Officers specifically the newly elected. We will have a session for Commanders and Executive Officer, Education Officers, Administrative Officers, Secretary, and Treasury. I would like to focus on ways to retain members as well as promotions to produce new members. We will be asking all of the breakouts to discuss these topics. We will talk about how other squadrons do business and try to deliver "BEST PRACTICES". All are invited but it is important your squadron officers and hopefully committee chair persons make every attempt possible to attend. THANK YOU AGAIN FOR ALL YOU DO. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!

You're Never Too Old (or Too Young) for Power Squadron Activities .



Ed Kydd ,100 and Don Clark, 84 exchange pleasantries, D 23 Conference Oct 21, 2016.



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

District 23 Newsletter D/C Mark Adams, SN



Congratulations to the Squadrons of D23 on a successful 2016. Each squadron should do a selfassessment of what went well during the year and carry them forward. Also what did not go as well as hoped and what can be done in 2017 to improve. Thanks to the Daytona Beach Sail and Power Squadron for a very successful fall conference.

Fast approaching is the WINTER COUNCIL meeting Saturday January 14, 2017. The meeting is open to all members but it is IMPORTANT for incoming squadron officers to attend as there are plans to have training and information sharing for the various positions. The location is 100 Jimmy Huger Circle, Daytona Beach, Fl., 32117.

Shortly after the Council meeting is the USPS ANNUAL MEETING in Orlando at the Rosen Center Hotel. The dates are February 19-26. All squadron members are invited and encouraged to attend this meeting's events that are occurring in our district. Squadron Commanders need to identify their squadron delegates and complete any necessary proxy forms for the Saturday annual meeting. Information on Thursday's department meetings, Friday's seminar sessions, and Saturday's annual meeting along with event registration and hotel reservations can be found at www.USPS.org. I know a lot of us don't attend national meetings because of travel expense. However this annual meeting is in our back yard thus travel in minimal and costs to attend meetings is minimal or nothing. I am certain there will be lively discussions continuing on District consolidation, registrations fees, and the \$20 charge for non-members with passing exam grades. Come join us Thursday thru Saturday.

Also mark your calendars and keep an eye out for coming information on the District Change of Watch March 31 and April 1st. 2017.

Please support our Friends!

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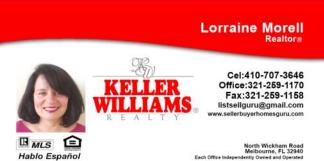
2425 N. Courtenay Pkwy, Merritt Island Mon-Fri: 7am-2pm & Sat & Sun: 7am-1pm

(321) 452-0305

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

2425 N. Courtenay Pkwy Merritt Island, FL Breakfast & light lunches available.







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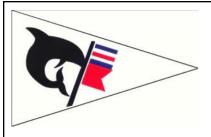
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Winter 2017 Issue

COCOA BEACH SAIL & POWER SQUADRON

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