

The EnLIGHTener

Sail and Power Boating
Volume 38 No 4
December 2011

Ponce de Leon Inlet Sail and Power Squadron

A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons® District 23



Commander's Report

I would like to thank the members of the 2012 Executive Committee for stepping up to help run the Squadron for the upcoming year. For those who have never served in such a capacity, the jobs are time consuming but relatively easy to perform. The pay is not good but the satisfaction of keeping the Squadron operating on an even keel (pun intended) is priceless.

Over my time with Ponce de Leon Inlet Sail & Power Squadron, I have seen a number of members quit their positions within the Squadron and the Squadron itself because their efforts to perform their duties were criticized by others. This is disturbing because in almost every case the criticizing member was asked to step up into a leadership role but refused.

It is a shame to lose members who have the Squadron's best interest at heart and are trying their best to perform their jobs to criticism. Instead of criticizing, assist that member OR step up. If you are in a leadership role and have people assisting you, do not become critical of their efforts. Remember, they will be stepping into your position when you leave, or not.

Please check your emails for notification of your Merit Marks. I'm told that these have been released. Are you one of the 33 recipients listed here? If you wonder why my name is not on the list, the recommendation for the Commander must go through the District. With a little luck, our merit mark list will then grow to 34 members

- Clarence J. Allen
- Linda C. Allen
- Michael J. Aloise
- Vicki G. Aloise
- Charlotte Behr
- E. Denise Benny
- Roger E. Bushnell
- Sandy L. Bushnell
- Ken G. Courage
- Myrna M. Courage
- Teresa J. Faure
- Antonia Howington
- Thomas G. Howington
- Carol M. Hupfer
- Curtis A. Hupfer
- Bruce T. Jennings
- Joan T. Jennings
- Robert D. Johnson
- Lora E. Moses
- Karen K. Myers
- William R. Myers
- Elaine H. Reichert
- Paul E. Reichert
- Norman Slifkin
- Susan Slifkin
- Lynda S. Stevens
- Wesley H. Stevens
- Michael W. Stubbs
- Patricia R. Stubbs
- Joanne K. Walters
- Don R. Woods
- Martha A. Woods
- Paul J. Yeaton

Each merit mark represents a real contribution to the Squadron. My sincere thanks to those who earned them.

Yours in safe boating,
Cdr Will



Cdr William C. Benny, SN



Bridge Officers

Commander
Cdr William C. Benny, SN
(386) 426-8426

Executive Officer
P/C Paul E. Reichert, AP
(603)-363-4919

Education Officer
P/C Robert D. Johnson, AP
(386) 756-1094

Administrative Officer
P/C Elaine H. Reichert, AP
(603)-363-4919

Secretary
Lt/C Myrna M. Courage, S
(386) 428-4537

Treasurer
Lt/C E. Denise Benny
(386) 426-8426

Executive Officer's Report

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION, PART 3, FINAL CHAPTER

- Number of hurricanes in Florida in 2011 - NONE
- Number of hurricanes in New Hampshire in 2011 - ONE
- Number of White Halloweens' in Florida in 2011- NONE
- Number of White Halloweens' in New Hampshire in 2011 - ONE (18" of snow)
- Number of days of ice fishing in Florida in 2011 - NONE
- Number of ice fishing days in New Hampshire in 2011 - WAY TOO MANY

As the year for our Squadron comes to a close, and I leave the Bridge, I want to thank everyone for all their help over the year. We are a volunteer group and I just received my "pay" for the year from National, a Merit Mark. The other "pay" received is the opportunity to "work" with a great group of people. It was real nice to read the November EnLIGHTener and see only one unfilled position and several new names on the list as the Squadron continues on its successful way.

I will be back to supervise P/C Bill Myers, SN, as we do the Fish Fry. In the meantime,

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR.



P/C Paul E. Reichert, AP



Education Officer's Report

Well, with turkey day just a couple of weeks away things in this department are pretty quiet.

On Saturday 22 October Paul Yeaton and I presented a short class on "**Paddling Safety for Canoes and Kayaks**" at the Smyrna Yacht Club. Paul taught the class and I gave a short "Who We Are" presentation. Our efforts appeared to be well received.

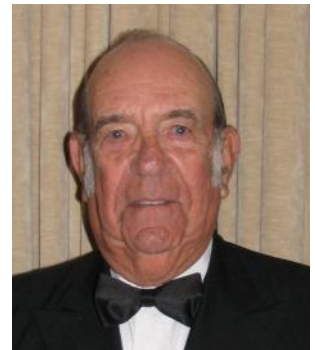
Two weeks ago we held our ABC-3 class at the Marine Discovery Center for just three people. Once again Bill Myers did his usual fine job of putting this class together with the help of Paul Yeaton who made the site arrangements and also was one of the instructors. The exam was held the following Saturday, November 5th, and all passed.. I understand we may have gained a member from the class.

"I wanted to thank you on behalf of the Smyrna Yacht club and the Kayak Group for taking the time to speak to us about Kayak Safety. After your talk we had a wonderful day paddling around the island. It was a great day and everyone had a new appreciation for safety on the waterways."

Bob Stearns

I have had two members interested in a piloting class and we plan on having a class starting in February, 2012, with Cdr Will Benny, SN, as the instructor. Anyone else interested please give me a call so course material can be ordered.

In closing, Louise and I would like to wish everyone a very happy and safe holiday season.



P/C Robert D. Johnson, AP



Administrative Officer's Report

As this year's Watch comes to an end, I would like to extend my appreciation to those who gave their time and effort as chairmen of working committees in the administrative department. It has been a busy year with our responsibilities for the District 23 Conference as well as our normal activities. These people deserve recognition in print as most people are unaware of all that they do to keep our ship running smoothly:

- Karen Myers as membership chairman must take all new member information, get it to National, and then welcome them at a meeting with a notebook filled with the necessary information to get them started.
- Teri Faure was around, as member involvement, to make sure new people felt comfortable.
- Paul Yeaton as boating chairman set up a schedule and made sure that plans were completed for our monthly activities.
- Sue Slifkin volunteered to cook for the squadron and prepared two of our meals at the Boat and Ski club assisted by Norm Slifkin as trusty transporter.
- The telephone committee did a great job informing members of meetings and taking reservations and Linda Allen, as their chairman, was the glue that set up the calling and took their reservations;
- Lora Moses set up our monthly breakfast and made sure the restaurants knew we were coming.

The Squadron owes you all a huge thank you as I do.

Also, please note the testimonial below from one of our Fall Conference visitors. It's nice to know that others in the District appreciated our efforts.

I think the only thing missing from our Friday night Margaritaville party, was Jimmy Buffet himself.

As usual, we had a great time! The atmosphere was certainly laid back and the costumes were colorful.

Our host squadron did an outstanding job on the feast and entertainment. While enjoying a delicious plateful of goodies from the buffet, we were entertained with music from the south.

Later on, after our meal, we were also treated to a grass skirt dancing contest. I don't recall who won, but, to say the least, I've never seen contestants quite like the brave souls that volunteered to shake their booty's to the howls and delight of the members in attendance.

You really must attend one of these events. They're a lot of fun and a great way to meet others in our District.

P/C Roy Merritt, JN
Titusville Squadron



P/C Elaine Reichert, AP



The EnLIGHTener

is published nine months each year by the Ponce de Leon Inlet Sail & Power Squadron, District 23, United States Power Squadrons.

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P/C Bruce Jennings, SN
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K & S Printing,
(See ad on Page 10)

Deadline for submission of material is the Sunday after the Executive Committee meeting, (except May, June, & July). Direct submissions to Ken Courage, 1600 N Atlantic Av, New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169
kcourage@ufl.edu
(386) 428-4537

2012 District 23 Events

Jan	Winter Council Meeting - Daytona Beach
25-29 Jan	USPS Annual Meeting - Hyatt Regency - Jacksonville Riverfront
Mar	Spring Council & Conference - Gainesville / Ocala
May	Summer Council Meeting - Titusville
4-7 Sept	Governing Board Meeting - Marriot Renaissance Center - Detroit, MI
Oct	Fall Council & Conference

Breakfast at Golden Biscuit, 223 Canal St., NSB 7 December at 0830.



The dates and places for the 2012 breakfast gatherings will be announced in the next issue of The EnLIGHTener.

Executive Committee Meeting

8 December at 1900
NSB Boat & Ski Club, All members are welcome.



December Events



**Change of Watch and Christmas Party
15 December, 2011
Hidden Pines Club House
Social: 1800, Dinner: 1900**



For the second year, we will combine two of our most important annual events: the Christmas party and the Change of Watch.

The Change of Watch lets us express the gratitude that we all have for a great group of volunteers who have stepped up to be our incoming Bridge.

The Christmas party gives us the chance to share the joy of being together for another blessed Christmas.



Directions

Go west on State Rd 44 to Hidden Pines Blvd. There is a Friends Bank on the left side just before the intersection and a PNC Bank just after the intersection. The old Williams Furniture store is just past the PNC Bank.

Turn left on Hidden Pines Blvd and proceed about 1/4 mile to the clubhouse.

"You can't miss it!"

The menu choices will be Prime Rib and Chicken Cordon Bleu. The cost will be \$10 for members and \$22.50 for guests. The Calling Committee will ask for your menu choices so that we can order the correct amount of everything. Please bring whatever you want to drink.





November Breakfast at The Holiday Inn, New Smyrna Beach

Don't forget our December breakfast at The Golden Biscuit, 223 Canal St., NSB , 7 December at 0830.





**Oyster Feast and
General Meeting at the Boat and Ski Club**



**The Gainesville Sail and Power Squadron
and the Ocala Power Squadron
Invites District 23 to**



**The Balmy Bahamas Cruise
Murder Mystery Dinner
March 23, 2012**

You are cordially invited by Megastar Singer *Tilly Song* to join her on a luxury-plus cruiser that she has hired to see the Bahamas and have a holiday. There will be a variety of famous people to rub elbows with.

Dress for a Bahamas Cruise, there will be dancing and a Luau Buffet featuring Teriyaki Beef, Hawaiian Chicken, Baby Ribs Bora Bora and Sweet 'n Sour Shrimp. But watch over your shoulder, there is a possibility a murder might occur and your help will be needed to determine the suspect.



Cruise Departs at 1900
from the Ramada Inn
Conference Center,
Ocala, Fl
Boarding Cruise Photos
begin 1830

3810 Bonnie Heath Blvd.
I-75 Exit 354

**The registration form will be in the
next issue of The EnLIGHTener**



Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Officer Audrey Zahn shared some of her experiences patrolling our waters and answered many questions pertaining to regulations for boaters and fishermen.



October General Meeting at Blackbeard's





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Myrna and Ken Courage

Pat and Mike Stubbs

Bruce and Joan Jennings

Lora Moses

Judith Kossuth

Martha and Don Woods

Elaine and Paul Reichert

(Always room for more)

We welcome
your comments
on this edition of
The EnLIGHT-
ener and your
contributions for
the January edi-
tion. The dead-
line for all mate-
rial is Sunday
11 December



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KENNETH FOX
President



District 23 GALAXY
P/D/C Robert E. Becker, Jr., SN

As most of you are now aware, D/C James DePalma, SN, and DEO Richard Conrad, SN resigned their district positions for personal reasons. This action took place just before the District 23 Fall Conference. At the fall Council/Conference, in accordance with the District by-laws, and with approval of the District 23 Council, I was elected to fill the unexpired term of D/C and P/D/C Fred Adame, SN, was approved and elected to fill the DEO's term. A new slate of bridge officers will be elected at the Spring Conference.

So what does this mean to our District? DEO Fred Adame, SN, has many years of USPS experience especially in Education type activities. Fred is the Cocoa Beach Squadron JN and N instructor and over the years has taught about every USPS course there is. Fred will keep you advised of Educational happenings as received from USPS Headquarters, will conduct an SEO training session at the Winter Council meeting and hold an SEO session at the spring conference. You can rest assured that if there is anything new in the way of USPS Education, Fred will pass the information along to you. Also if you have any Educational questions or need assistance with Educational matters, please contact Fred.

As for your newly elected D/C, I thought I was going to sit in the rocking chair and retire after stepping down from the D/C position last March. But fate did not allow that to happen. I am here to assist you in any way I can with USPS matters. For the next six months I will be attending many of your Changes of Watch sessions, passing along USPS information which pertains to the squadrons and/or our overall organization, and attempting to solve any USPS squadron problem you might have. Several of our District squadrons have already presented me with information regarding their future bridge positions by having trouble filling them. If you need me to come to your squadron's general meetings and speak to your membership, just let me know. I will be there.

We are facing economic hardships at this time and I can appreciate many of our USPS members re-thinking about staying on as USPS members. This is the time to reassure them that our membership dues are very low in comparison with other organizations, we have the very best educational courses available and certainly the comradeship one gets from being a USPS member is second to none. Let's try our very best to have them stay the course!

District 23 is here to serve YOU and your squadron. Lean on us. We will do our best to serve YOU and your squadrons.

SQUADRON NOMINATING COMMITTEE SLATE FOR 2012

Executive Committee

- Commander Cdr William C. Benny, SN
- Executive Officer P/C Don R. Woods, AP
- Education Officer P/C Robert D. Johnson, AP
- Administrative Officer Lt Lora E Moses
- Secretary Lt/C Myrna M. Courage, S
- Treasurer Lt/C E. Denise Benny

- Members at Large Wesley H. Stevens, S
- P/C Stan Sisson, S
- Lt Roger E Bushnell, S
- Lt Michael W. Stubbs, S
- Curtis A. Hupfer

Elected Assistants

- Assistant Education Lt Paul J. Yeaton, P
- Assistant Secretary Patricia R. Stubbs
- Assistant Treasurer P/C Linda C. Allen, SN

Elected Committees

Nominating Committee

- Chairman – One year P/C Linda C. Allen, SN
- Two year Lt Paul Eberle
- Three year P/C Lawrence J. Willwerth, AP

Rules Committee

- Chairman - One year P/C Don R. Woods, AP
- Two year Lt Hugh B. Avant, S
- Three year Carol M. Hupfer

Auditing Committee

- Chairman - One year Lt Michael W. Stubbs, S
- Two year Lt Roger E. Bushnell, S
- Three year Curtis A. Hupfer

The EnLIGHTener

Ponce de Leon Inlet Sail & Power Squadron

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Our best wishes for a happy holiday season and a prosperous new year