

# The EnLIGHTener

## ***Ponce de Leon Inlet Sail & Power Squadron***

A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons ® District 23

Vol. 37 No. 6      *Sail & Power Boating*      February 2011



**Cdr William C. Benny, SN**



It appears that my slogan “The Year of Volunteer” has inspired some to step up to the plate. Some have volunteered to represent the Squadron at the D23 Winter Conference and some have volunteered to work on some of the committees for the D23 Fall Conference. Bravo to those who have decided to make a difference this year. I still need one special person to step up to chair the Fall Conference Committee. Again, I will appeal to you to search deep and resolve to volunteer.

We had a great turnout for the annual fish fry at Bethune Beach Park. The weather cooperated and allowed us to make use of the pavilion which gave a great view of the ocean. As usual Chef Myers treated our palates to some wonderful triggerfish along with all the shared goodies brought by our members.

The D23 Winter Council was held at the ARC Building in Daytona with Daytona Squadron as the host. Ponce had 7 members attend to learn all the ins and outs of their respective jobs. We were briefed on many D23 related events including disbursement of some D23 monies.

Congratulations go out to the award recipients at the Awards Ceremony last month. As always, all were richly deserved. It was especially gratifying for me to be able to give out so many Senior Member plaques. In order to achieve this status, one must volunteer enough of their time for the good of the squadron to receive 5 merit marks. Again, congratulations to everyone.

The USPS National Conference will again be held in Orlando this year from January 31 – February 5. This is a good opportunity to see our USPS National in action. It is also a good opportunity to join in the USPS camaraderie.

Yours in safe boating,  
Cdr. Will

### The EnLIGHTener

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Printing: K & S Printing, Edgewater  
(See advertisement on Page 9)



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Administrative Officer	P/C Elaine H. Reichert, AP 424-0378
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Treasurer	Lt/C E. Denise Benny 426-8426

**Executive Officer**  
**P/C Paul E. Reichert, AP**

Perhaps, by the time you read this article, the cold weather will have left our area and we will be out on the water. Now is a good time to get ready for the warmer weather. The 2011 Vessel Safety Check stickers have arrived and the examiners are ready to inspect your boat. (Inspection stickers go by the calendar year).

You can check these things out before the examiner arrives. Many boaters don't wear their life jackets and they are stored on the boat under a seat or placed in some storage area. Get them out and take a good look at them. Are they clean, no mold or grease, are the straps tangled so that no one could put them on, are there holes or rips in them? If you are stopped by a law enforcement agency, checking your PFD is one of their priorities. Let's start the New Year with a new resolution - WEAR YOUR PFD.

When was the last time you checked your fire extinguisher? Give it several shakes to be sure that the chemicals haven't caked up on the bottom and the pointer is in the green area. When mounting the fire extinguisher, try to do it horizontally as this helps keep the chemicals shaken up as the boat bounces moving along in the water. A vertical mount allows the chemicals to settle to the bottom and this can lead to compacting.

These are just two things to check but look at everything from bow to stern. A boat in good condition will make for a safe, pleasant boating season. See you on the water with a VSC sticker on your boat.

**The EnLIGHTener** is published nine months each year by the Ponce de Leon Inlet Sail & Power Squadron, District 23, United States Power Squadrons. Deadline for submission of materials is the Sunday after the Executive Committee meeting, (except May, June, & July). Direct submissions to the Editor: Lt Ken Courage, S, 1600 N Atlantic Av, New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169 (kcourage@ufl.edu) 386 - 428 - 4537



**Squadron Education Officer:**

**P/C Robert D. Johnson, AP**

Things are moving along, a little slower, but never the less we're moving forward. Paul Yeaton and I have gotten together and are planning a review for two Seamanship students and we're looking to have a re-test in early February. Both students are reviewing their critiques and homework, which will put them in a good position for the exam.

Once that is completed, we're planning on a Mariner's Compass seminar which will be open to all members as well as the general public. Further information will follow but we're hoping for a late February or early March date. More on that also.

Not to forget the ABC class on 29 January. Bill Myers has done a super job on these classes and he can always use proctors and instructors. Why not share your knowledge and earn a merit mark as well. It's fun and very rewarding. This will be my 37th year teaching the public class and it's as much fun and rewarding today as it has been in the past.

If you would like to teach or proctor, contact Bill Myers at 426-7799 or me at (386)-756-1094 and we'll get you started. If anyone has any class they would like to take, call me and we'll do our best to oblige.

Make your next cruise a safe one; take an elective or advanced course.

**National Boating Safety Council News and Events**



**National Safe Boating Week  
May 21 - 27, 2011**



**2011 Summit  
March 6 - 9,  
Savannah, Georgia**



We welcome your comments on this edition of the EnLIGHTener and your contributions to the March edition. The deadline for all material is Sunday, February 13.



**Administrative Officer  
P/C Elaine Reichert, AP**



***Merit mark submissions should be kept from January to December***

Each year the National Commander awards one merit mark for tasks completed beyond the normal participation of members. We could not exist without our membership attending meetings and our other activities as they are important. But to function successfully there are those who go the extra mile doing something beyond the normal. We have 64 members according to National and 28 of them received a merit mark this year.

To make sure that we recognize all of our member's contributions, each individual needs to start right now with recording the specifics of the activity, date and the amount of time spent on said activity. Please get out a sheet of paper or set up a folder on your computer to jot down what you do every time you do something for the Squadron. Start with the heading - January - did you attend a special planning meeting, teach a class, man a booth, do a safety check, submit articles for the EnLIGHTener, go anywhere as part of your office (meetings, exec, council), or work at home to benefit the Squadron? Few of you actually submit sheets to me and yet expect that I can figure out what you have done. Keep these lists and pass them on to the MM Chair at the end of October. As it happens, I know most of what people do and I do receive some input but it is coming time to pass this task on to someone new who will NEED to rely on what is submitted in print.

**12 February Boating Activity**



Our next boating activity, will find us eating again as we cruise and lunch at J B's Fish Camp in Bethune Beach. We order off of the menu and we welcome water and land cruisers. If one is early enough, as J B's is a popular destination, there is plenty of docking. The restaurant itself opens at 1130.

Call Paul Yeaton - (386 ) 409-9339 for reservations.

**District 23 Fall Conference**



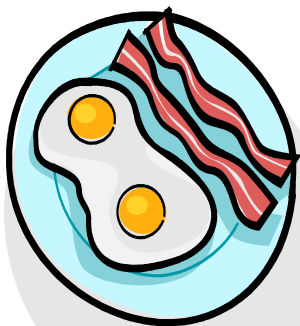
We have had one meeting to work on our 2011 D/23 Conference hosting. Progress was made as to theme, food, and the contract has been signed. We need all of the Squadron to be involved - decorations, food for hospitality room, callers, registration committee, prizes and raffle committee, and many more. Bob Johnson will head our bar committee, Pat Stubbs our hospitality, Linda Allen reservations, Denise Benny decorations. Head up a committee or volunteer to be on one. There is a place for everyone!! We have a low hotel rate of \$69.00 so we hope that as many as possible will stay at least Friday night to help AND to have fun.



**January Breakfast  
Country Kitchen, Oak Hill**



**Come and join the breakfast bunch at the following dates and places  
(No reservations required)**



- 2 Feb:** Lighthouse Café, 1500 S. Dixie Freeway, NSB
- 2 Mar:** Mom's Home Cooking, 1201 N Dixie Freeway, NSB
- 6 April:** Goodrich's, 253 River Drive, Oak Hill
- 4 May:** Mom's Home Cooking, 1201 N Dixie Freeway, NSB
- 1 June:** Ruthy's, 618 W. Canal St., NSB
- 6 July:** Lighthouse Café, 1500 S. Dixie Freeway, NSB
- 3 Aug:** Jason's Corner, 135 Canal St., NSB
- 7 Sept:** Ruthy's, 618 W. Canal St., NSB
- 5 Oct:** Manny's, 3318 S. Atlantic Ave., NSB
- 2 Nov:** Holiday Inn, 1401 S. Atlantic Ave., NSB
- 7 Dec:** Golden Biscuit, 223 Canal St., NSB

Note: The dates are firm and the time is always 0830. The locations are subject to change due to conditions beyond our control. Please check future editions of the EnLIGHTener for revisions. Also, email reminders will go out before each breakfast.



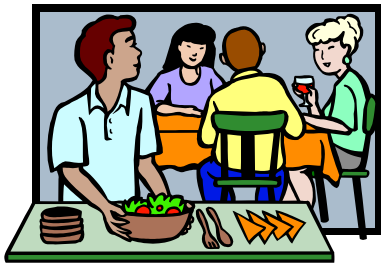
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### February General Meeting and Dinner

The next general meeting and dinner will be on 24 February 2011 at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 516 South Orange Street in New Smyrna Beach.

- Time: 1800 Social, 1900 Dinner
- Menu: Salad, rolls, meatloaf, potato, vegetable and dessert - coffee & tea
- Cost: \$12 per person
- Uniform: G or appropriate attire

Reservations: Calling Committee - P/C Linda Allen, SN, chairman - 423 - 1945



The program will feature a very interesting talk by Karl Loeper; "Hurricane Chaser and Weather Forecaster." He will be coming all of the way from the Villages so we hope all will turn out for the meeting.



Karl Loeper retired from the National Weather Service in 2004 after 44 years in meteorology. His house in Bradenton was, until recently, the only one on the block with a 5-foot weather vane on the roof.

## January Boating Activity: Fish Fry, Bethune Park

The sun came out and Mr. Winter tucked himself in for a few hours as 30 people enjoyed the fish fry served up deliciously by Bill Myers and assisted by his son, Mike Myers.

Members brought side dishes, which were superb as usual, to accompany the fish. Thank You - Bill for treating us once more to the best fried fish in town.





**More  
Fish  
Fry  
Photos**

### **2011 District and National Events**

- 22 Jan:** Winter Council Meeting, Daytona Beach
- 31 Jan - 5 Feb:** USPS Annual Meeting, Disney, Florida, Coronado Springs Resort
- 18-20 Mar:** Spring Council & Conference, Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort
- May:** Summer Council Meeting & D23 Picnic, Titusville
- 12-17 Sept:** Governing Board Meeting, Sheraton Four Seasons, Greensboro, NC
- 30 Sept to 2 Oct:** District 23 Fall Council & Conference - *Ponce de Leon Squadron hosting*
- Nov:** King Neptune, Banana River

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## Join USPS At Disney In 2011, Jan 31 to Feb 6

*Registration is Free*

*Register at [www.usps.org/php/registration](http://www.usps.org/php/registration)*

### **Educational Opportunities**

- "On the Water" training
- Two new leadership classes
- Weather Seminar
- Astronomy Seminar
- Vendor Exhibits

### **Social Events**

- House of Blues Dinner and Cirque Du Soleil 3 Feb
- Meet and Greets 4 Feb
- Members Luncheon (Cash Bar) Saturday 5 Feb
- Social Reception and Luncheon 5 Feb
- Reception and Banquet 5 Feb

### Time to order your new Squadron T Shirt



It has been several years since we ordered new shirts and we have new members and ones that have shirts that have seen better days. The Squadron has purchased 5 shirts as samples to try on and they will be available at our meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup>. We all want to look sharp for our Squadron's hosting of the 2011 D/23 Fall Conference. The price is \$22 for the meeting or a call in and will go up to \$25 thereafter. Feel pushed - yes indeed! We do not want to keep putting in orders.



### **Squadron Birthdays in February**

Ellis Hornberger	2/4
Stan Sisson	2/5
Dick Abbott	2/6
Elaine Reichert	2/13
Bill Myers	2/15
Joanne Sechen	2/19
Ernie Boggan	2/20

### **EnLIGHTener Supporters**

(Donating \$10 or more a year )

We thank you for your contributions

*Linda and Chuck Allen*

*Mike and Vicki Aloise*

*Will and Denise Benny*

*Roger and Sandy Bushnell*

*Charles and Judith Kossuth*

*Myrna and Ken Courage*

*Teri Faure*

*Bruce and Joan Jennings*

*Bob and Louise Johnson*

*Lora Moses*

*Elaine and Paul Reichert*

*Norm and Sue Slifkin*



**GALAXY 23**  
**From the District Bridge**  
**D/C Robert E. Becker, Jr, SN**  
**Commander**

It's the New Year and it should be an exciting year for D 23. First off we have the D 23 winter council meeting on Saturday, 22 January being held at the ARC center in Daytona Beach. If you attended the fall D 23 Conference you will remember that several "ad-hoc" committees were formed to report on several items: the continuance of having two yearly D 23 Conferences; moving some of our D 23 treasury money into gold were two of the topics that will be reported on at the council meeting. And this is the council meeting that our D 23 bridge Officers spend some time with the incoming D 23 squadron officers showing them what we can do to assist them in their squadron positions. So please insure that the old and the new bridge officers attend the council meeting.

Right after the council meeting the next USPS event is the Annual Meeting. Again it will be held in Orlando at the Disney resort complex. Here is a chance to meet many of our USPS members from all over the country, islands etc. It is also a chance to see the USPS in action. Committee meetings, booths featuring USPS activities along with several related marine type activities are always high on the "to see" list of attendees. And of course the awards event on Friday and the actual annual meeting on Saturday will be more of the highlights for those attending. So be sure to spend at least one and hopefully additional days attending the annual meeting the week of 31Jan-5 Feb. Check the USPS web site for more info.

And oh yes, once again the meeting is held in OUR territory and we are the host district. Don Clark and his gang of National Meeting Committee people will need plenty of assistance. Give Don a call and see what you can do to help out!!

Squadron Changes of Watches should be completed by the time of our D 23 Spring Conference hosted by our newly formed squadron, Central Florida Sail & Power Squadron. Cdr Kat Feder and her crew promise us a great conference. The Friday night theme is PIRATES! I am sure there will be lots of info regarding this conference on the D 23 web site as well in each of the D 23 squadron publications. So be on the lookout and mark the dates.

While all of the above items are of great importance, the most important topic is still MEMBERSHIP!! Only each of you can build our squadrons back to where they were several years ago. The economy appears to be getting better and hopefully more potential boaters will be heading for the water. Go after them. Get them to take our ABC3 course. Sign them up as new members of your squadron. We have the best courses available along with the best organization for boaters.

Make it happen.

## The EnLIGHTener

### Ponce de Leon Inlet Sail & Power Squadron

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**Ponce de Leon Inlet Sunset**