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District Commander 2018-19

D/C Donald K. Cook, SN
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Manatee
941-748-8078

I hope everyone had a great summer. Welcome back to all you Snowbirds. Sorry I was unable to attend the District C&R. My surgery went well and my doctor says everything looks fine although I still have two fading black eyes. Thanks to

DXO Ted Reiss, SN for substituting. Thank you also to the sponsoring squadrons and all those who contributed their time and effort to make the event a success.

No one likes a dues increase. Fortunately one was not proposed at the Fall Governing Board but we did have a \$2.00 increase not long ago. For the first time this increase was earmarked for a specific purpose, marketing. The additional funds allowed our organization to advertise both on the web and in popular boating publications. This exposure coupled with our new logo hopefully will help reverse our downward membership spiral. While a bit early for a definitive result, there are definite positive signs.

Just about everyone seems to be embracing the America's Boating Club logo, great. Remember, the suggested phase out date for the ship's wheel, at the squadron level, (publications, website, etc.) is the end of next year. Several squadrons have updated their name tags to reflect the change, new ones look great. This does not mean you must discard your shirts etc. which are still serviceable. The change in this area will take a bit longer. Just try to display the new look when appearing before the general public.

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at your upcoming Change of Watch. Start planning now to attend the Spring Conference in April. Plans are underway for an informative and fun time for all.

Have a great season and a happy 2019.

Keep it safe, both on the water and land.

UPCOMING EVENTS

18-24 February 2019 USPS Annual Meeting

Rosen Centre Orlando, FL

http://www.usps.org/php/reservations_new/meetings.php?mtg_id=22

12-13 April 2019 D/22 Spring Conference

Charlotte County Event Center Punta Gorda, FL

The **BEACON 22** is the Official Newsletter of the United States Power Squadron® District 22. Published four times a year in individual squadrons newsletters.



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EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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Congratulations to our Merit Mark achievers, you earned it!

Now that the heat and rain are over are you ready for more boating? Christmas and New Years are almost here which bring more members back from the North, the increase in education offerings and more opportunities for more fun.

Cooperative Charting and Vessel Safety Check programs begin again. In fact decals for the 2019 VSC year should be available before the end of 2018. Check with your VSC Chair for early distribution. What percentage of your squadron member's boats were checked in 2018? Was it less than 100%? Let's try to improve on last year. Is a VSC required for participation in your squadron events?

Cooperative Charting program is still for real. Only major difference today is that the United States Power Squadron does not have a signed Memorandum of Agreement with NOAA meaning data does not go to NOAA. Data on discrepancies can still be Full instructions for submitting your observations are on the web site. Your reports will definitely make the documented with local, county, state and other federal organizations. Data is needed for both land and water related markers. waterways safer, sooner.

Recently I read an article about two PWC's colliding. Each had two people on board. Severe injuries resulted in two people being air lifted to a hospital. Related to safety one of the citations given was for not having a designated look-out it sparked an increased reminder of the need for a "DESIGNATED LOOK-OUT" on all of our boats at all times.

EDUCATIONAL OFFICER

D/Lt/C John R. Nason, SN

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The new Boat Handling course, a series of seminars, was made available to order on 10 Sept. It is totally electronic. It is meant to replace the present Seamanship course.

A pilot program has been initiated to provide e-books for the existing Seamanship 2016 course. Information is available on-line. Hard copy Seamanship manuals can still be ordered until supplies run out.

A new seminar on the safe use of propane on your boat is now available.

We now have authorization to use the Radar course developed by the Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons. It is extensive and addresses all of the new technologies in radar systems available in 2018.

Check out the America's Boating Channel on the USPS web site. There are tons of interesting videos you can view and download for recruiting efforts.

There is a new booklet called a primer that contains reference material for new boaters. It is perfect for distribution at boat shows, marinas and boat dealers. It includes information for contacting USPS and an application for USPS membership.




Member Benefits and Discounts

The **USPS Member Benefit Center** offers an exclusive and dynamic program that provides member benefits and discounts endorsed by the USPS.

Using the **USPS Member Benefit Center** can save you hundreds of dollars. Your USPS member is your ticket to real savings. Visit the website today to find discounted vacation packages, cruises, cell phones, insurance and more.

www.USPSbenefits.org

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

D/Lt/C Sam Bonilla, AP

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Hard to believe the end of the year is coming so quickly and the holidays will soon be upon us. Before going any further, we wish everyone a safe and joyous holiday season. May your dreams come true and have a happy and prosperous 2019!

The Administrative Department is the featured department for this issue of the Beacon 22. As I look back at many of the accomplishments this past year, I can honestly say that this is truly one of the most active and engaged departments that I've had the pleasure of working with. Much of the success is due to the dedicated volunteers who give of their time and energy to make things happen at some of our biggest events. Probably the most important are our Spring and Fall conferences. I was amazed at all of the planning and coordination that was necessary to put these programs together in order to meet your expectations. Many folks made valuable contributions behind the scenes. Too many to name them here, but much of the success can be attributed to the leadership of our Conference Committee Chair R/C Myles Gee, SN, Event Coordinator and Organizer D/Lt/C Sandy Krupa, P and leading the Audio-visual team, Cdr Bill Behrens, P and P/D/C Warren Maciag, SN. Thank you everyone for a job well done!

Of course, one of the more important parts of the Fall Conference was the opportunity to award some of our members for outstanding accomplishments. I am proud to announce that Peace River Sail and Power Squadron took 1st place in National Scrapbook Award prepared by Kathy Tracy and a youth poster submitted by San Carlos Bay Sail and Power Squadron took 3rd place Nationally and 1st place in District for the 6 – 8 age category. We also had 11 recipients in the 50-year membership category, how great is that! A complete list of the recipients is included in this issue. Congratulations to all of the Squadrons and individuals for their accomplishments.

I have learned that having fun is a critical component necessary to keep our membership engaged. With that in mind, we just completed our

District 22 C&R held in Ruskin, at Little Harbour held on 31 October through 3 November. Thank you to the many folks that worked hard at making this a very successful event under the great leadership of our P/D/C Sue Lomastro, AP of Sarasota Power and Sail Squadron, the lead squadron. The theme for the event was "Gasparilla Invasion of Ruskin" and as you will note from the photos, some folks really took this seriously. Please be sure to read Sue's full report that appears in this issue.

Would you believe preparations are already on the way for the upcoming District 22 Spring Conference and Change of Watch scheduled for 12 - 13 April 2019! As I previously mentioned, there is a lot of work that is required to put this event together. The Conference Committee could always use your help and we do need additional hands to work the audio-visual setup for the conference. This is where "the more the merrier" comes into play and you will be working with a very dynamic and energetic group of volunteers. If interested, please contact me as soon as possible.

Just as in the Fall Conference, the Spring Conference will feature a new format for the Commander's Roundtable scheduled for Friday, 12 April. A breakout session between Commanders and Bridge Officers will provide a great opportunity for an exchange of ideas and suggestions for improvements. The following day will include round tables covering subjects of interest to you. In the afternoon will be our Annual Conference and in the evening please join us at the Change of Watch in welcoming our new District Commander, Ted Reiss, SN. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending. Looking forward to seeing you there! In the meantime, have fun and stay safe!



D22 C&R Costume finalists

D/22 Cruise and Rendezvous

As current Commander of Sarasota Power & Sail Squadron, I want to report on the 2018 District 22 Cruise and Rendezvous which took place 31 October through 3 November. The event was at Little Harbor in Ruskin, FL. Sarasota was the host with Peace River, Naples, Venice and Fort Myers squadrons, all assisting. Twelve District 22 squadrons participated. Nine boats made the journey. 50 meals were consumed on Thursday evening and 67 on Friday. Thursday evening's entertainment was a troubadour who was big hit. On Friday, Peace River conducted over 12 different games and all participated.

Thanks to the support from the D22 Bridge, this event was a success. Administrative Officer, D/Lt/C Sam Bonilla, AP, helped out with organizational plans and he took care of the sound system for the dinners. District Executive Officer, D/Lt/C Ted Reiss, SN, and D/1/Lt Peggy Reiss, JN hosted an enjoyable beer and wine hospitality time with some delicious snacks. District Educational Officer, D/Lt/C Jack Nason, SN and his wife, P/C Nancy Nason, AP covered the dinner registration table. District Assistant Treasurer, Casey Considine, JN was so helpful throughout the mail-in registration process as well as with all the financial details that go along with an event of this size.

Thanks to Venice Sail & Power Squadron, Naples Sail & Power Squadron and Sarasota Power & Sail Squadron for the door-prize baskets which were spectacular. Also thank you Clearwater Sail & Power Squadron for sending a door-prize.

*Susan Lomastro, AP, Sarasota
Past District Commander 2017-2018*



D22 2016 Fall Conference





Fall 2018 Award Summary

The following awards were distributed at the D22 Fall Conference.

Congratulations to all the squadrons and individuals.

Recognition of 50 Year Membership:

P/C Lewis Catlin, SN	Cape Coral Sail and Power Squadron
P/C Anthony Mathews, SN	Crystal River Sail and Power Squadron
P/C Dudley Bauerlein, SN	Lakeland Sail and Power Squadron
P/C Ronald Carford, SN	Manatee Sail and Power Squadron
Robert J. Belliveau, SN	Marco Island Sail and Power Squadron
P/Lt/C Donald N. Schneider, AP	Naples Sail and Power Squadron
C.M. Shumacker, Jr, SN	Peace River Sail and Power Squadron
P/R/C Charles G. Troike, SN	Peace River Sail and Power Squadron
Lt Socrates J. Birskey-Okuntsoff, SN	Sarasota Power and Sail Squadron
P/C James Stewart, AP	Sarasota Power and Sail Squadron
P/Lt/C William White, SN	St Petersburg Sail and Power Squadron

Fifty Year Squadron Certificate: San Carlos Bay Sail and Power Squadron

District 22 and National Charles F. Chapman Scrapbook Award:

1st Place Nationally and in District: **Peace River Sail and Power Squadron**

District 22 and National Boarman Youth Poster Contest Award:

3rd Place Nationally and 1st Place in District, in the 6-8 Age Category, goes to:

Chanson Peacock – San Carlos Bay Sail and Power Squadron

Prince Henry the Navigator Award: Naples Sail and Power Squadron

D-22 2018 Charles Chapman Award for National Excellence in Teaching:

P/C Charles P. Richardson, SN – San Carlos Bay Sail and Power Squadron

USPS Educational Proficiency Award:

1st/Lt Grant Esser, AP	Fort Myers Power Squadron
1st/Lt Dean May, N	Manatee Sail and Power Squadron
Martin Wilhelm, AP	Marco Island Sail and Power Squadron
1st/Lt Marge Babkiewicz, AP	Peace River Sail and Power Squadron
Lt Gregg Wickstra, AP	Sanibel-Captiva Sail and Power Squadron
P/Lt/C Sylvia Wedge, AP	Sarasota Power and Sail Squadron
P/C Thomas Thompson, AP	Tampa Sail and Power Squadron

Flags for Educational Excellence: Lakeland Sail and Power Squadron



Marco Island Sail and Power Squadron formally changes their branding to “America's Boating Club”

The news release below and photo have been published online in the Eye-On-Marco and will be published in the local Marco Eagle and Coastal Breeze newspapers.

NEWS RELEASE

November 14, 2018

Contact: Tom Morr (Thomas.morr@outlook.com; 215/880-8880)

MARCO ISLAND SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON ADOPTS “AMERICA’S BOATING CLUB” NAME

MARCO ISLAND, FLORIDA – The Marco Island Sail and Power Squadron (MISPS) today formally approved doing business effective immediately as “America’s Boating Club - Marco Island.” This identity change was approved this morning by the MISPS governing board and ratified tonight by the organization’s members at its 2018 annual meeting.

“Marco Island Boaters of all kinds are invited to join our organization,” said Club Commander Gene Burson. “This new name signifies that power boaters, sailors, kayakers, paddle boarders, wave runner operators, fishing enthusiasts – all boaters, regardless of type or use -- are welcome to be part of America’s Boating Club - Marco Island,” he said.

“Since the founding of the Marco Island Squadron in 1978, we have taught thousands of people ways to enjoy and safely operate their vessels and have organized thousands of boat outings and social events to help our members enjoy boating here,” Burson stated. “We want everyone with a watercraft to know this is a club dedicated to them and to safe fun on the waters surrounding Marco Island,” he said.

Boating has changed with new technologies, new materials and new ways to enjoy water sports and we are changing with it, said Burson. Several years ago the United States Power Squadrons (USPS), the national organization of which the Marco Island Squadron is a part, launched an initiative to examine how it and its member squadrons could better support a broader cross section of the boating community which led to among other things the national organization adopting a new brand, logo and tag line – **America’s Boating Club, By Boaters, For Boaters.** Today’s action by the Marco Island Squadron incorporates the national initiative and brings this more inclusive brand to Marco Island.

“With today’s busy lives, fewer boaters are in the sport just for boat-

ing’s sake. More people across a broader age spectrum enjoy boating in many different ways,” Burson said. “People boat for recreation, exercise, nature, fishing, exploring, socializing, family fun, etc. The amount of time they can spend on the water in any one outing varies,” said Burson. “Both the National and Marco Island organizations are changing our programs, materials and events to keep boating memorable and meaningful for all. Today’s action is further commitment to that change.”

Most people seek to enjoy boating with others. The role of a group like the America’s Boating Club - Marco Island is to create opportunities for fun watersports. It is also to provide the boating community with knowledge and skills so boating can be enjoyed with confidence and safety, Burson said.

Many confuse the name ‘Squadron’ with a military structure. At America’s Boating Club - Marco Island the emphasis is on ‘Club’,” Burson said.

During the up-coming year the Club will use both the brand identity ‘America’s Boating Club - Marco Island’ and the name ‘Marco Island Sail and Power Squadron’ to transition to the new identity.

Also at the annual meeting, the Club’s Members elected new officers and bridge for 2019 and approved the organization’s annual budget. Officers elected are: Commander – Thomas G. Morr; Executive Officer – Robert N. Smith ; Administrative Officer - Wanda A. Burson; Education Officer – Thomas R. Ryan; Assistant Education Officer - John Maciolek; Secretary – Margaret M. Smith; Assistant Secretary - Kathleen Reynolds; Treasurer – Robert J. Gloodt; Assistant Treasurer - Steven W. Riley; . The new Bridge Officers will be installed at a Change of Watch ceremony in February, 2019.

MISPS is a 501(c) (3) non-profit, that is a unit of the United States Power Squadrons a 104 year old, 346 chapter national Boating organization that teaches boating skills and navigation, conducts vessel safety checks, assists the US Coast Guard and State and Local Governments in identifying defective aids to navigation and promotes fun and fellowship among Boaters of all kinds.

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District 22 Conference

Punta Gorda, FL



Friday, 12 April:

Squadron Commander/Executive Officer Meeting
District Council Meeting
Cocktail Party

Saturday, 13 April:

Roundtables - Awards Luncheon
District Conference Meeting
Change of Watch



Thank You to D/C Don and Welcome to D/C Ted

Hotel Info:

Four Points Sheraton – 941-637-6770 – 12 – 14 April - \$109.00 cutoff date 3/20

This is hotel of choice with full bar and restaurant.

Prices good for one day prior and a day after the dates shown.

Springhill Suites by Marriott – 941-347-4224 - 12 – 14 April - \$109.00 cutoff date 3/20

Must mention United States Power Squadrons and book for 2 nights for these rates

D22 2020 TROPICAL CARIBBEAN CRUISE

(following the Annual Meeting)

7 days: Sun, 16 -23 February 2020

7 days roundtrip from Fort Lauderdale on Holland America's **BRAND NEW ms Nieuw Statendam**
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Feel free to invite your friends, family and neighbors to join us. Everyone must
book through Dawn Eckhart in order to be included in our group and receive the
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Please email Dawn Eckhart at dawnstraveldeals@gmail.com or call
(727) 403-0406 to join our group on this fun-filled cruise!



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