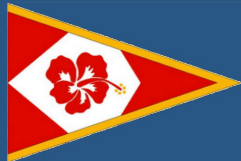


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Vero Beach Power Squadron

Nautical News

March/April 2014
Volume 43 Issue 2

Dedicated to Safe Sail and Power Boating

Greetings!

This months Nautical News features the *Change of Watch* and your *New Bridge*. Progress continues on the *save the lagoon project*. 7 new members and a new *Nautical News* design.

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Change of Watch - P/C Judith Peschio



For More Pictures.....

Vero Beach Power Squadron Celebrates 58th Annual Change of Watch

On 5 January, 2014, members and guests from the Vero Beach Power Squadron gathered at the Vero Beach Yacht Club to celebrate the squadron's 58th Annual Change of Watch ceremony. The following members were sworn in to serve as the 2014 Bridge Officers:



Your Bridge

Commander
Cdr Warren Miller, AP
(772) 567-8036

Executive Officer
Lt/C Robert Sheridan, AP
(772) 794- 0458

Educational Officer
Lt/C (P/C) Alan Ebstein, SN
(772) 462-0249

Administrative Officer
Lt/C Mary Wohlstein, S
(954) 895-0132

Secretary
Lt Susan Hamel, P
(517) 930-2099

Treasurer
Lt/C Susan Ritchardsons, S
(772) 460-3866

Quick Links



[Our Web Site](#)

Commander	Cdr Warren Miller, AP
Executive Officer	Lt/C Robert Sheridan, P
Educational Officer	Lt/C Alan Ebstein, SN
Administrative Officer	Lt/C Mary Wohlstein, S
Secretary	Lt/C Susan Hamel, P
Treasurer	Lt/C Susan Ritchardson, S

Following dinner, awards were presented by P/C Judith Peschio, P and Cdr Warren Miller, AP to the following members:

P/C GEORGE C. AID MERIT AWARD (Contribution to Boating Education)	Merrit "Bill" Yunker
CLYDE WALLACE SLEETH AWARD (Service to the VBPS)	Lt Jan Mooney
NEW MEMBER AWARD (Service to VBPS by a New Member)	George Scheiber
P/C C. JAMES TRANTER AWARD (Contribution to Cooperative Charting)	Lt Austin Walsh, AP
CHARLES F. CHAPMAN AWARD (Teacher of the Year)	Lt/C Alan Ebstein, SN
SENIOR MEMBER AWARD (Five Merit Marks)	Lt Carolyn Macmillan Donald Derman, SLT Carol Pastirchak, P

The new officer's installation ceremony was performed by D/C Diana Jackson, SN.

More than 80 members, associate members and honored guests attended the event which was organized and orchestrated by P/C James Ward, JN and his wife, Lt Judith Ward. Jim also served as the Master of Ceremonies. Member Tom Barrett, S provided the music for a fun evening of dance and celebration.

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Save the Lagoon - Toby Jarman



For More Pictures.....

VBPS WORKS HARD TO INCREASE OYSTER POPULATION

Toby Jarman jokes that he has spent so much time with oysters that his wife, Jo Ann, is pregnant. Although Jo Ann will not be having a baby shower, the reproductive cycle of the Lagoon's oyster population has caused a flurry of activity at the Vero Beach Power Squadron building.

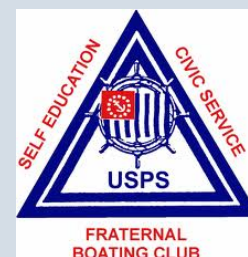
The Squadron's Save the Lagoon Committee has partnered with the Vero Beach Sunrise Rotary Club to assemble oyster shell mats that will expand existing oyster beds in the Lagoon. Because oysters only send out larvae in April, VBPS volunteers are working hard to reach a goal of 600 mats by the end of March when Squadron boats will help lay a "quilt" of mats around oyster beds



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in the Lagoon north of the Moorings Flats. The floating larvae will attach to the oyster shells and grow into adult oysters in as little as one year.

So why do we want more oysters? Oysters are Mother Nature's natural water filters. Each oyster cleans about 50 gallons of water a day. Not only do these hard working crustaceans remove pollutants, they also clarify the water to allow more sunlight to reach sea grasses on the Lagoon bottom. Just like grass at your house, sea grasses need sunlight to grow.



Meeting our goal of 600 mats will lead to a lot of clearer water. Each mat has about 36 oyster shells. Based on each shell attracting at least one larvae (there will probably be more), 21,600 new oysters will form. Based on 50 gallons a day, that's over one million gallons of filtered water a day or almost 400 million gallons a year!

Sea grasses in much of the 156-mile long Lagoon, including the Vero Beach area, were devastated by a massive algae bloom a few years ago. While researchers are studying why the algae bloom exploded, everyone agrees that expansion of a hearty oyster population will help Mother Nature bring back the sea grasses.

So why do we need sea grass? Without sea grasses, Manatees have nothing to eat. Also fish will have fewer places to spawn. With less baby fish, predator fish and birds, such as Snook and Egrets, have less to eat. Without adolescent fish, dolphin have less food. This vicious cycle explains why the populations of the above Lagoon wildlife has decreased dramatically in just a short few years.

The Vero Beach Power Squadron has stepped up to the plate to help expand the oyster population. Thus far about 75 volunteers have spent over 700 hours on the project-sometimes working in 10-person shifts. And true to the VBPS tradition, the teams would often go out to lunch to celebrate their work, where on one occasion, Bill Laviolette actually ordered oysters on the half shell!

Click on the following for a recent [Vero Beach Hometown News article on the Squadron's oyster mat project.](#)

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Commander - Cdr Warren Miller, AP



[Hello Vero Beach Power Squadron Members and Associates](#)

I want to take a couple of minutes of your time here and thank you for your support and trust in being your Commander for 2014. I want to thank now Past Commander Judy Peschio and the 2013 Bridge for all their hard work in the past year. I want to thank all the members who donated their time in making VBPS the best Squadron in District 8. I know we all do this for that little piece of paper at the end of the year telling us that we have qualified for a merit mark. I know I use the word we and us a lot because we are the Vero Beach Power





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Squadron. We are like a family and like all families there are parts we like and parts we don't like quite as much, but as a family we all stick together and support each other. I have been in many other organizations in my life and one of the things I like best about our Squadron is how everyone stands together to support the Squadron and everyone in it. Because we have such a large Squadron we have many different activities, classes, socials events, seminars, boat cruises, raftups, beachups, etc., etc. Because we all have a different idea of what boating means to us. Being so diverse can be a challenge in keeping the Squadron on focus on what a Squadron is. We must remember that United State Power Squadron is a triangle of Education, civic service, fraternal boating; participating in all three makes us individually a better boater, and collectively a better Squadron. So I hope all Squadron members will participate in all three. Take a class, volunteer for a civic event, and attend a dinner. The more you get involved the more you will be involved.

I know my wife, Gail, Gianna & I try to attend every dinner, and every Friday night. Although this has become harder now that we are raising Gianna; what happened to our retirement? I say this in jest because we are very fortunate that we are able to do this. But it has changed our boating experience. I bring this up to show how we all have different boating experiences, and as we move along in life, our boating experience will continue to change. Although we all boat differently we are all members of Vero Beach Power Squadron., and need to support the Squadron in all three sides of the triangle.

I know this may be a challenging year for us all in the VBPS. We have instituted a new pricing structure for the Squadron, to evenly spread the cost of the maintaining our building across our entire membership, our building is what makes our Squadron so different from other Squadrons, and allows us to be so diverse in what we can offer. No other Squadron can offer what we do. We have also embarked on a Strategic Planning committee review of our membership to see what we can do to make your experience as members even more rewarding. I know we can continue to count on your support.

I guess I have taken up enough of your time. Remember we are Vero Beach Power Squadron, and always be Vero Beach Proud.

Commander Warren Miller AP

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Executive Officer - Lt/C Robert Sheridan, AP



Greetings to all

The new year is here and it certainly did not take long for everyone to get started. I certainly want to thank all the members of the Executive Department who are continuing with their various chairs, they all were very dedicated and active, helping to make VBPS a proud and well respected organization in the Indian River communities.

In addition, I would like to thank and recognize the new Executive Committee members who have agreed to serve, Barbara Ebstein as our new Liaison Officer, Michael Wohlstein as our new Radio Tech Chair (FCC Revue), and our new Safety Officer Chris Caldwell. All of these volunteers bring years of experience and knowledge to their respective committee chairs.

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We have several programs coming in the near future and would like to get as many members as possible to participate in these activities! We have the the Vero Beach Air Show is coming soon, everyone interested contact PC Bob Scully or sign up at the Squadron. We will also have our Boys and Girls Club fishing outing at the end of March, this is always a rewarding and fun event. Dr. Carlin is the chair for this event and is looking for boats and mates to assist. I am sure that anyone who volunteers for this outing will enjoy it tremendously.

We also have the fairly new Save the Lagoon Committee which is chaired by Toby Jarman and is well under way. I am sure that you have all received his correspondence on the progress of preparing oyster mats for the Lagoon. He has requested volunteers to continue helping with this program and hopes to reach 600 mats by March, this is when they need to be placed in the Lagoon for maximum effect. Toby is working tirelessly on this and I would certainly like to see enough members respond so that the goal of 600 mats can be met!

There are considerably more programs being considered for this year to help the Lagoon and to become involved in other civic activities. You will find posted in your member roster a great group of Chairs that fall under my office, look the programs over and if one or more appeals to you please contact that group chairperson or me. All of these programs need more volunteers.

I am really pleased with the way this year has started and I am looking forward to making this one of the best years for our Squadron. As always Vero Beach Proud!

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Educational Officer - Lt/Cdr (P/C) Alan R. Ebstein, SN

SEO REPORT



Our Educational year is rapidly drawing to a close. Our instructors are to be congratulated having taught courses with as little as 1 to 3 students in some cases.



Our members have shown that they really grasp the subject matter with passing grades in the 90 percentile. So, hats off to our members as well.

We are always looking for ways to reinvent ourselves / offer new and exciting products, and I think we have done that with free seminars, Fire Arm Safety courses and On the Water Training as an adjunct to our regular courses such as Seamanship and Sail. By the time you read this, several of our members will have taken advantage of the On The Water training. It is the wave of the future here at the Vero Beach Power Squadron and all United States Power Squadrons.

If you have a talent for teaching, are well versed in any subject that deals with safe boating, and would like to pass your expertise along, please contact me so we can work you into our Free Seminars or our regular courses. Let's self educate our membership in ways we never imagined doing before.

Our Calendar's



[VBPS Events](#)



[Birthdays](#)

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See you in class and on the water.

Al Ebstein SN
SEO Vero Beach Power Sqdn.

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Administration Officer - Lt/C Mary Wohlstein, S



Hello Fellow Vero Beach Power Squadron Members,

For those of you who do not know me, my name is Mary Wohlstein, and I would like to thank you for electing me to the position of Administrative Officer for 2014.



My husband Mike and I have been members of the Squadron for 3 years and have participated in numerous events. Last year Mike was the Fleet Captain and taught Cruise Planning and I hosted or participated in several parties and Friday Night Socials and held the position of Assistant Secretary. This year Mike is teaching Cruise Planning and Marine Communications. This Squadron is a volunteer organization and counts on their members to help run the organization. If you feel you can help out in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me at m_wohlstein@yahoo.com.

Mike and I retired in 2000 and headed to the Bahamas on our 47 foot sailboat. Unfortunately we lost "Sun N Sail" in the hurricanes of 2004 in Fort Pierce. We now own a 41 foot trawler "Tuesday's Child", named after our first grandchild Grace, which is docked here in Vero Beach so we are well versed on various kinds of boats.

In our blended family we have 5 children, 8 grandchildren, and have cruised from Maine to Key West, Erie Canal to the Thousand Islands and up the Rideau. Now you know us, we would like to get to know you.

One of my favorite events is coming up on April 5th which is the Ladies Luncheon and Fashion Show. Last year this event was a huge success with 60 attendees and over \$300 donated to the VNA Thrift Store (Visiting Nurses Association). This year's event will be held at the Vero Beach Yacht Club and should be even better than last year. One more event that supports the wonderful community that we live in.

Through the efforts of Jan Mooney and the generous donations of the VBPS members a total of \$420, 30 boxes of Girl Scout cookies, and many bags of candy were donated to Treats for the Troops.

I recently received a note from my neighbor who sold Girl Scout cookies at the Squadron in support of Treats for the Troops.

Her note reads:

Dear Vero Beach Power Squadron,

Thank you so much for buying Girl Scout cookies for the military. It helped to also raise money for my Girl Scout troop so that we can go on educational trips. Thanks for supporting the Girl Scouts and the Military.

Sincerely, Rachel Presti, Troop 5000035

We are Vero Beach Proud.

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In the News.....

[Valentine treats for loved ones](#)

The Vero Beach Power Squadron took up a donation of \$420 for the eighth annual Valentines for the Heroes drive to help with postage for the care packages for family members of the Military Moms Prayer Group. [read more.....](#)

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[U.S. Power Squadrons turn 100](#)

In 1914, an unknown pitching prospect named Babe Ruth debuted for the Boston Red Sox. The first commercial airline flight took off from the shores of Tampa Bay. World War I began.

Next Sunday, Feb. 2, the United States Power Squadrons will celebrate its 100th anniversary of service.

The nonprofit educational group grew from humble beginnings as a "club within a club" in the Boston Yacht Club. Several yacht club members were experimenting with kerosene- and gasoline powered engines in their boats.

While the sailboating contingent in the yacht club frowned upon the "stink pots," there was no turning back for boating. Powerboats were here to stay.

In 1913, the yacht club established the Powerboat Division of Boston Yacht Club and a lifestyle was born. The following year, a group of seven similar clubs consisting of powerboat owners convened to form what now is one that features 40,000 members in 400 squadrons across the country.

Power Squadron members strive to make boating more fun through education. Along with the fellowship they enjoy, they have a strong commitment to community service and answer a calling to help educate the boating public.

On the Treasure Coast, the role of the squadrons is critically important. Each weekend (when it's not too cold), thousands of Treasure Coast residents hit the waters of the Indian River Lagoon. By noon on any Saturday, Sunday or holiday, our waters are teeming with hundreds of vessels of all shapes and sizes moving about.

What if no one knew how to read a channel marker? What if the "rules of the road" consistently were ignored?

I know there are plenty of examples of those taking place

every day, but thankfully, boating education groups like the U.S. Power Squadrons and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary - which are two separate entities, in case you didn't know - have stepped up to ensure that every boating outing doesn't evolve into a watery disaster.

Statistics show that educated boaters are far less likely to be involved in a crash. So get educated. Sign up for a course today. On the Treasure Coast, there are four Power Squadron units to help connect new boaters to the wonderful world on the water that awaits.

There is the Vero Beach Power Squadron (chartered in 1956), the Port St. Lucie Power Squadron (1959, as Fort Pierce Power Squadron), the St. Lucie River Power Squadron (1970) and the Sebastian Inlet Sail and Power Squadron (2003).

Look for your U.S. Power Squadron neighbors next time you are out and about. Give them a wave if you see them at an event or on the water.

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Writer: Ed Killer
January 25, 2014

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New Members



With Toby & Cdr Miller, Jane Stanford, Barry Richelsoph, Susan Bennett, Anne Cormier, Mela Rath, Terry Lade, Bill Laviolette



Michelle Jacoby, Marc & Donna Renzema with Jan



Denise Poirier



Siegfried & MaryAnn Boettjer



Mike & Diane Harvey



Pat Barrett



Jackie & Marty Pegelow



Jim & Joni Armstrong



Janet Widmann



Jane Stansfield



Dick & Mela Rath

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In Remembrance

P/C Matt Mathewson, SN

Feb. 24, 2014

He taught the JN course for many years.



Our thoughts and prayers are with his families & friends.

Chaplains Corner

Don't take chances

In a recent discussion concerning wisdom in leadership a nugget of truth surfaces for our own lives. "Most people do not plan to fail, they fail to plan!" Wisdom is personified in the application of a plan ... and what is the nature of a plan? A plan is when you organize and commit to certain activities and objectives. Once you have a plan, and stick to it, the chance of floundering in non-productive effort is minimized. You know what they say in the 'piloting course.' "If you do not consult your map you may very well end up somewhere else." Now, I am aware that 'stuff happens' (that is a function of Murphy's Law), but without an active plan or roadmap there is minimal chance of advancement and/or recovery. Don't leave your life to chance.

For comments contact:
SGM/Chaplain 'Tom' Jones

SGM F.T. Jones III

The Great American Storyteller
United States Army, Public Affairs (Ret)

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Hope you enjoy the new look of the Nautical News.

Sincerely,
Ron Miller
Publisher Nautical News - Vero Beach Power Squadron

Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in the Vero Beach Power Squadron. Don't forget to add vbps.newsletter@gmail.com to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox! If for any reason you decide you would rather not receive our correspondence, or you would like to make changes, use the links below.