



Are VBPS members having a positive impact on the Indian River Lagoon, or is the Lagoon having a positive impact on VBPS members? The answer is a resounding, "yes."



District 8



USPC



When the VBPS Save the Lagoon Committee was first established, we went about the process of identifying a list of activities that we could undertake to contribute to the solutions of the many environmental problems facing the Lagoon. We developed plans, worked hard, and began seeing progress in specific activities.

But for a lot of us, it was a lot deeper than that. It was a time of introspection and reflection. It started with the realization of why we were drawn to Vero Beach in the first place. We could have settled in Miami, Ft. Lauderdale or Palm Beach. Instead, we passed on the concrete condominium canyons of places further south for the tranquil beauty of low-rise mangrove covered shores. When it was apparent that our beautiful Lagoon was under siege by both man made and natural threats, it was a call for action. A lot of our members had been looking for opportunities to give back to society. The Save the Lagoon Committee activities gave them the vehicle for turning thoughts into action.



Over eighty of our members came together to assemble 760 oyster mats that will expand the Lagoon's oyster population, and in turn, clean and clarify the water, promote sea grass recovery and increase fish, bird, dolphin and manatee populations. In total, we drilled and assembled over 27,000 oyster shells that were placed next to existing oyster beds in the Lagoon the end of March. These shells will capture oyster larvae released every April, and provide a home for new adult oysters this time next year and the following years to come. Based on each oyster cleaning and clarifying 50 gallons of water a day, this increase in adult oysters will lead to about 500 million gallons of cleaner and clearer Lagoon water in just one year!



Our Sponsors

Even our Paddle Group was called on to help. The oyster beds on one sand bar was in water so shallow that outboard powered boats could not get close. Twenty kayakers came to the rescue by transporting shells the last two hundred feet.



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And the young strong backs of the Willow School and the new high school rowing club were summoned to help lay the mats in the water.



But our job is not done. Expanding the oyster population all along the 156-mile Lagoon is a long term project, and we plan to start new activities such as mangrove restoration. We also hope to encourage other Power Squadrons and organizations to replicate the model we have begun in Vero Beach.

Our Location

Further, we plan to get more students involved in our activities, hopefully encouraging them to major in science or, at a minimum, to become good stewards of our environment. Thus far, the Gifford Youth Activity Center, the Boys and Girls Club of Indian River County and Saint

Edwards School have committed to making oyster mats throughout the year. Also, an enterprising high school student has offered to organize, utilizing Face Book and other social media, other Indian River County students for oyster mat making events at our Squadron building. Finally, the Indian River Land Trust invited us to organize a oyster mat assembly demonstration at one of their recent fund raising events. Over 50 participants, including City Council Woman, Pilar Turner and husband Al, completed 68 mats!



If you are feeling a little (or a lot) more pride in being a member of the Vero Beach Power Squadron, then I rest my case-the Lagoon is having a positive impact on you.

Toby Jarman, Chairman, Save the Lagoon Committee

[MORE](#)

Save the Lagoon - Channel 12 News Feature

[Top](#)

Youth Sailing Foundation - Charles Pope

Youth Sailing Foundation of Indian River County Hosts Youth Regatta as a tribute to Instructor and Supporter Steve Martin

If you were lucky enough to be out of the Indian River on Sunday April 6th you would have seen over 20 small sails on the water making their way around a race course.



Watch "Youth Sailing Foundation Promo Spot" by Verola Studio-Photo & Video: <http://www.vimeo.com/92775755>

The Youth Sailing Foundation of Indian River County hosted its first annual youth regatta as a tribute to Steve Martin who passed away last September while he was preparing to teach a Saturday morning class at the YSF's sailing center.

"He was quite a guy" said Charlie Pope, Youth Sailing Foundation founding member and board chair. Martin was chairman of the Vero Beach Marine Advisory Commission for 38 years and shared his love of sailing by teaching the kids of Indian River County how to sail through the YSF's free youth sailing program.

The YSF of Indian River County is the only non-profit organization that

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operates an instructional sailing program that teaches children to sail while providing the boats, the equipment and the lessons at no charge to the students. YSF is operated by volunteers and run on donations alone. Many of our most dedicated volunteers are also members of Vero Beach Power Squadron. For more information go to www.ysfirc.org or call 772-567-9000 to schedule a tour.

YSF is very grateful to the George E. Warren Corporation for its regatta sponsorship contribution and to Reliable Septic and Services for their donation to the regatta.

On Sunday, children from the Treasure Coast Youth Sailing Foundation, the US Sailing Center of Martin County, the Palm Beach Sailing Club and St. Lucie County Yacht Club joined the YSF sailors for a fun day of racing.

22 young sailors, ranging in age from 8 to 14, competed in Optimists, which are small, single sail dinghies. The kids competed in either the Green (beginner) Fleet or the Red, White & Blue Fleet for more advanced sailors.

There were no losers on Sunday as everyone enjoyed being out on the water, the freedom one feels when skippering a boat and the pleasure of coming ashore for the awards BBQ.

Charlie Pope

If you order from Amazon.com on a regular basis, or even at all, they have a new charity donation program. Instead of amazon.com, set your favorite to smile.amazon.com.

The first time you go to this website, it will ask you to choose a charity to which Amazon will donate 0.5% of everything you buy from them. Please choose Youth Sailing Foundation, and from then on, with no extra steps by you, Amazon will donate to YSFIRC every time you buy something.

This process is seamless to do, once you specify the charity the first time.

Feel free to share this with your friends .

Thanks, Charlie

Co-op Charting - Bill Heimbaugh

Some of you may not be familiar with Cooperative Charting

NOAA and USPS have worked together for over 40-years in a program called Cooperative Charting. Under the program, USPS members submit reports to NOAA on the condition of nautical charts, facility reports, and ANTONS (aids to navigation i.e. day markers down or tilting due to someone hitting it, missing radar reflectors and other damage). NOAA uses this information to update its nautical charts in Vero Beach and other U.S. Coastal areas.

Each year, Vero Beach Power Squadron members do depth surveys for discrepancies in depth, shoaling, and a variety of objects that would obstruct marine navigation. The squadrons Coop Charting Chair then



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files reports with the District which go on to National and then onto NOAA's Office of Coast Survey where chartists review and make any changes that are necessary. The squadron's work is published on new editions of charts. Power Squadrons throughout the country have adopted over 125 NOS nautical charts. This new year (April 1, 2014) we are experimenting with equipment that does the depth input automatically which will make our soundings more precise. We do our depth surveys during the week and meet on Thursdays for lunch and to review what surveys have been done. Come join us for lunch to learn more about Coop Charting.

Bill Heimbaugh, S
email; billh1711@comcast.net

I would like to thank all those who participated in the Cooperative Charting program this last year. This is the best year we have had in several years and we look forward to another banner year for 2014. If you would like to join us please contact us and come to lunch to meet the Coop Group

*Below is our final rankings for District 8.
Coop standings for the Cooperative Charting year starting April 1, 2013 and ending March 31, 2014 District 8 individual rankings for Coop Charting per squadron*

*1st place; Vero Beach Power Squadron
2nd place; Key West*

*National ranking by district
District 8 ranked number 9 out of 55 districts participating Top members participating in Coop Charting program ending 3/31/14*

*Vero Beach Power Squadron
Len Frosina
Don Helm
William Lavigne
Bill Nicholas
James Crawfis
Jack Kruiton
Caroline Bargren*



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Our Calendar's



VBPS Events



Birthdays

Top

Top

Jimmy Buffett Party - April 13

Food, fun, and friends. And of course flamingos.



Top



VBPS keeps giving



Volunteers from the Vero Beach Power Squadron (VBPS) not only cooked up

and sold hamburgers and hot dogs at the Environmental Learning Center's (ELC) EcoFest but they then donated the money they raised to the ELC
Photo: Warren Miller, Commander of the VBPS, Ed Carr, volunteer at VBPS, Bill Friesell, Board Chairman of the ELC

In 2013, VBPS members donated 13,575 hours and over \$10,000 (Total value over \$400,000) to activities that benefit all citizens of Indian River County. Please be a VBPS Ambassador and use these numbers when discussing VBPS with family, friends, and others. These activities include the Youth Sailing Foundation, Boat Safety Exams, Boating Education, Lagoon Cleanup, Environmental Learning Center Support, Sheriff's Courtesy Marine Patrol, Cooperative Charting, Boating Safety, Boys and Girls Club Outings and others. 13,575 hours is the equivalent of seven full time county workers. It is important that the general public understands the good work that VBPS does.

[Top](#)

Boys & Girls Fishing Outing - Lt Sue Hamel, P

Boys and Girls Club Youth Learn About Fishing

What a great partnership between the Boys and Girls Club and the Vero Beach Power Squadron. Youth learning to fish and hearing basic boating safety - which is what the fishing outing is all about. We've heard that this is their favorite event of the year. Many of the kids have never been fishing or boating prior to this experience.



On Saturday April 12 at 8 am, Captains arrived at the Power Squadron building to take the youth boating and fishing. The youth began the morning event by being fitted with Personal Floatation Devices and hearing boating safety information, which they were quizzed on after their lunch. Prizes were awarded for catching the most fish, the least number of fish, and the biggest fish.

[Top](#)

Ladies Lunch & Fashion Show - Lt Sue Hamel, P



The Ladies lunch and fashion show was held at the Vero Beach Yacht Club on April 5th. Seventy four guests attended, raising \$610 for VNA hospice.

[Top](#)

Commander - Cdr Warren Miller, AP



Dear Vero Beach Power Squadron Members
Associates and Friends



As we begin our second quarter of the year, I'm amazed at all that has happened already. We have completed 2 ABC courses with many new well educated boaters on the water. We have finished our advanced grade classes and many of our new seminars. A well-deserved round of applause for Lt/C Al Ebstein and his educational group. Volunteers devote so much of their time to make us all better boaters.

To those of you who went on the 100th anniversary cruise I heard a great time was had by all, a special Thank-You goes out to Vero Beach Squadron Member Barbara Chadwick who donated \$500 back to the Squadron from her booking our members on the cruise. This is something Barbara does every year for us, so please keep Barbara in mind when you plan your next cruise.

Some of you may have noticed our Nautical News has gone to a cyber-edition only, in today's world we are turning more and more to a

paperless society. This helps save the environment by using fewer resources and making us greener. We need to thank our Publisher Ron Miller and his crew for our new format. And also thanks to Bob Borelli for maintaining our web site.

Thanks to John Spilman and Howard Daniels for the great job in maintaining our building, they have accomplished a lot in the first few months.

Librarian Bev Ford has done a great job keeping our shelves organized; it seems every time I'm there someone else is dropping off more books to be added to our library.

Thanks to Mary Hill, Hoy Wilkinson, and Andrea Ferguson for sending out our greeting cards when needed.

Thanks to my bridge that makes me look good by doing such a great job. Lt/C Mary Wohlstein, our AO, has done a great job keeping our Social events a success and our many groups humming along. Lt/C Bob Sheridan our XO has kept our civic duties moving along smoothly. Our new secretary Lt/C Sue Hamel and treasurer Lt/C Suzie Richardson for the great job that they do with very little recognition. And thank-you to the Executive Committee who show up to all the executive meetings and make sure we run as smoothly as possible.

With closing I look forward to seeing many of you at the District 8 meeting May 2nd and 3rd. for those who have yet to attend a district meeting, I recommend that you come and see what it takes to run a organization like this. This does not get done on its own. It takes commitment from members to become involved. So I recommend everyone to get involved with the Squadron one way or another. The more you get involved the more you will be involved. I look forward to seeing all of you soon at one of our many functions. So remember to always be Vero beach proud.

Commander Warren Miller AP

[Top](#)

Executive Officer - Lt/C Robert Sheridan, AP

Greetings to all!!



The first four months of the year have certainly been exciting and rewarding. I want to thank all of the members who have been working for the Squadron at all our functions and committee activities, please be assured that I am keeping track for merit mark purposes.



P/C Bob Scully chaired the Vero Beach Boat Show at Riverside Park on April the 12th and 13th and with the help of several volunteers had another successful outing. Several people stopped at our booth and inquired about vessel safety checks, education, and other activities offered by our club!

Dr. Dick Carlin had the Indian River Boys and Girls Club fishing trip postponed due to weather and rescheduled for the 12th of April. As usual, the outing was a great success and all had a great time both fishing and at the luncheon, I could tell because we did not have any leftovers to worry about! Thanks to all the members who helped with the fishing and the meals, great job by all!

Toby Jarman, Chair of the Save the Lagoon Committee has been doing a

tremendous job and continues to expand opportunities for oyster mat construction with various public schools and youth groups. We will have more on these activities later!

As of this writing, Save the Lagoon Committee has completed 760 Oyster Mats, (660 with VBPS members, 100 with students). All of the mats were placed in the lagoon 3/22, 29, and 4/5.

As a result of Toby's efforts we have had significant coverage in 32963, the Press Journal, Hometown News, and on CBS Channel 12.

P/C Bill Heimbaugh and his Cooperative Charting group gave a hand to the Youth Sailing Group in their recent Regatta by charting and laying out the course. They are back at charting and anyone that is interested in this activity should give Bill a call!

P/C Dan Thomas reported that his group has completed 78 Vessel Safety Checks so far this year, great work!

Our Safety Officer Chris Caldwell has been giving great safety tips at our general meetings which are very interesting and informative.

Our Liaison Officer Barbara Ebstein has a joint cruise planned up to Jekyll Island with the Power Squadron and the Vero Beach Yacht Club! The cruise will commence on the 14th of May. Anyone wishing to join the cruise should contact Barbara asap!

Let us keep up the good work. As always Vero Beach Proud!

Lt/C Robert Sheridan, AP

[Top](#)

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.

Each year at this time I look back at what our instructors accomplished over the 2013 - 2014 academic year. We offered 16 courses from ABC right through JN and 116 members took advantage of the program. While that seems impressive attendance has been falling off year after year and it is worrisome.

The strategic planning sessions that were conducted recently, will give us insight into what new educational products we can offer in order to enhance the Boating Education experience for our members.

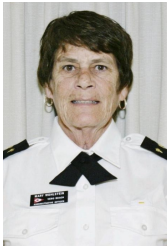
Keep an eye out for new and exciting things from your Education Dept.

Enjoy your Summer.

SEO
Al Ebstein SN
SEO Vero Beach Power Sqdn.

[Top](#)

Administration Officer - Lt/C Mary Wohlstein, S



Spring is here and exciting things are happening at the Vero Beach Power Squadron.

The 2nd Annual Ladies Luncheon and Fashion Show was a huge success. Through generous donations, ticket sales, and the Mobile VNA Hidden Treasures Store, \$610 was raised for Visiting Nurses Association Hospice doubling the amount of money that was raised last year. Thanks to all who supported this event.



The Jimmy Buffet Party hosted by Dick and Bonnie Myers was a great event with outside games and yummy food. It certainly was a day for the "Parrotheads".

Upcoming events include the Cinco de Mayo/Kentucky Derby Party on May 3 chaired by Bob and Brenda Sheridan, the annual Memorial Day Barbeque on May 26 chaired by John and Barb Spilman, and the Summer Solstice Dinner on June 21. I still need someone or a group of folks to step forward and host the Summer Solstice Dinner and I am always looking for volunteers to chair host the Friday Night Socials. Please contact me if you would like to volunteer.

Some of the other group activities include:

Bowling Group - May 4 at 6:45pm at Vero Bowl - contact Nora Lichty
Lunch Cruise - May 14 - location TBD
Summer Cruise for Vero Beach Power Squadron and Vero Beach Yacht Club to Jekyll Island, Georgia - starts May 14
Biking Group - May 17 at 9am - contact Max Calland
Book Club - May 21 at 12:30pm at VBYS - contact Carole Brubaker
Boat Beach Up - May 31 at 11am - location TBD
Bowling Group - June 1 at 6:45pm at Vero Bowl- contact Nora Lichty
Raft-Up - June 14 @ 11am - location TBD
Lunch Cruise to Harbortown Marina, Fort Pierce June 25 @ 11:30am - optional overnight stay
Boat Beach Up - June 28 @ 11am - location TBD

All boating activity questions should be directed to Dick Myers, VBPS Fleet Captain. Locations for future events will be sent out to the membership, announced at the Friday Night Social and posted on the Bulletin Board at the Squadron.

As you can see, we have many activities planned over the next few months, please join us and share in the fun. It is a great way to meet and socialize with other members.

Many of our "snowbirds" are headed home. I wish you a relaxing and enjoyable summer and look forward to seeing you again when you return.

Fair winds and following seas.

Lt/C Mary Wohlstein, S

[Top](#)

Nautical Tips - Captain Chris Caldwell

Alphabet Soup!

LJ, PFD, Mae West, and oh yes, what about the K-I-D's? Does any of this make sense to you? As boaters we should all understand the terms

and proper use of life jackets, or as the politically correct now call them, Personal Flotation Devices- PFD's. Depending on if you plan to go ocean cruising, water skiing, zooming on your personal watercraft or just for an evening ride around the waterfront, there is a flotation device that's right for you. But let's skip all the technical stuff that you learned about in the Power Squadron courses and the details that are listed on your State and Federal minimum required safety equipment pamphlets.

Instead, let's think about our future: the K-I-D's! You know, those family and friends who come for a ride on your boat, bat their eyes and plead to NOT wear that burned orange PFD. Sometimes they even pitch a fit because it is so uncomfortable, then you become distracted and uncomfortable too. That's a recipe for an unhappy cruise. So, just how do you get them to wear the right life jacket and LIKE IT?

Let's start with getting them involved in the process. Plan a shopping spree to the boating store and visit the kayak, canoe or paddling section for life jackets (PFD's) that offer greater arm mobility for paddling, have a softer, more comfortable flotation foam and yes, STYLE. These jackets come in a variety of colors, with cartoon characters and even have pockets for their smart phones. Best of all, kids can choose the one they want! An often used phrase, it is a WIN WIN situation. Since kids are small they need to have a Life Jacket that fits them when standing AND sitting! Try the "sit' test...If it rides up on them while sitting then it doesn't fit. Notice, nowhere did I mention an inflatable life jacket, that's because inflatable life jackets are NOT certified for children! Betcha didn't know that!

Now that your half pints are ready to go boating let's get them involved. As they help with navigation using binoculars to locate the next channel marker, this precious cargo stays busy....too busy to mention they do not want to wear their life jacket. After you return from a terrific day on the water the best thing to hear is "where are we going next weekend?"

See you on the water,

Chris & Alyse Caldwell
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- May 13-14, 2014 Building Cruising Confidence at TrawlerFest University in Anacortes WA
- May 15-17, 2014 TrawlerFest in Anacortes WA

[Top](#)

New Members



Jim Updyke



Joe & Sharon
Davis



Rey & Mary
Neville



Steve & Sandee
Dawdy



Martha Friberg
(R) & JoAgnes
Pasquarella (L)

[Top](#)

Chaplains Corner

Don't take chances

It all happened while I was at Fort Benning Georgia near the 'Great Georgian Swamp.' We had just completed our intensive land navigation courses and starting final practical exercise. We were on the edge of that great swamp and our objective was to reach enemy camp directly across the abyss using all the navigation tools that we had learned. It was a hot, moonless night. It seemed obvious that the aggressor force was setting up ambushes for us around the edge of the swamp.

Throwing caution to the wind, my squad voted on going directly across the swamp on a straight compass heading. A straight line is quicker and we would avoid ambushes. We waded right into the brush. This exercise could have been over and done in an hour! '... time passes ...' Ten hours later we were over our heads in muck, scratched and bruised and exposed to poison ivy, poison oak and warding off cotton mouths with our waterlogged (non-functioning) weapons. Because we never showed up at the objective or anywhere along the edge of the swamp the exercise was cancelled and helicopters were sent out looking for us. Needless to say, 'the entire squad got a good reaming' and we had to repeat the entire navigation course. Now, there were many 'Kodak moments' in this adventure and I have used them all as either an instructor, parent and/or traveler. #1 As an instructor, make sure your students understand exactly what the objective is. #2 As a student (or traveler), use the tools and techniques your instructors have given you to make your life easier. #3 Never tell your children that this actually happened to you but rather some other dim wit relative!

Hey, it's a parable! For questions and comments contact SGM/Chaplain 'Tom' Jones.

SGM F.T. Jones III

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

[Top](#)

Thanks to all of the contributors. Made for a robust edition.

Sincerely,

Ron Miller

Publisher Nautical News - Vero Beach Power Squadron

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