

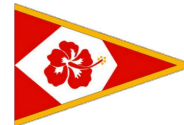
United State Power Squadron®



Nautical News

Vero Beach Power Squadron

January/February 2016
Volume 45 Issue 1



Come for the Boating Education . . . Stay for the Friends

*Published Bi-Monthly By the Vero Beach Power Squadron Inc.
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Dear

This months Nautical News features - End of the year and preparing for our new Bridge, no shortage of parties, or parades. Some final thought from Save the Lagoon and our Chaplain, Invite to District 8 spring conference. Don't miss the special classes put on by the Caldwell's, under Safety ~ *Cmdr. R. Sheridan*

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Your Bridge

- Commander
Lt/C Robert Sheridan, AP
(772) 794-0458
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Lt/C Mary Wohlstein, S
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(772) 462-0249
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(609) 815-6915
- Secretary
Lt/C Susan Hamel-Miller, P
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- Treasurer
Lt/C Susan Ritchardson, S
(772) 460-3866

Boys and Girls Fishing Outing - Theresa Atkins

7 Nov 2015, the Vero Beach Power Squadron (VBPS) sponsored a Fishing Outing for the Boys and Girls Club of Indian River County. For the 10th year in a row, twice a year, the VBPS hosts up to 30 girls and boys from the Vero Beach, Sebastian, and Fellsmere Clubs with the aim to teach the youth conservation and respect for the Lagoon. Arriving at the VBPS building at 8 am, the children were provided an entertaining Safe Boating instruction, were fitted with Personal Flotation Devices (life preservers), and sunglasses for eye protection were distributed prior to the youth boarding the fishing boats.

Quick Links



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[District 8](#)



[USPC](#)



Photos and collage courtesy of Joe Mumaw

Four hours of fishing later, the boats returned to the VBPS and the 27 children excitedly announced their catches: puffer fish, flounder, hammerhead sharks, cat fish, what excitement! A hot dog/hamburger/ice cream lunch was served. Prizes were awarded to the children who were able to most accurately answer a verbal quiz on their knowledge of both Safe Boating and Lagoon knowledge, and of course to those who caught the most fish, the largest fish, the smallest fish, and the least number of fish. It has been continuously reported that this VBPS hosted fishing outing is the Boys and Girls Club of Indian River County's favorite event of the year!

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Save The Lagoon Committee - Toby Jarman, S

SAVE THE LAGOON COMMITTEE

January is always a good month to look back on what we accomplished in the prior year, plan where we are going in the future, and give a sincere "Thank You" to the numerous members who participated.

Focusing primarily on expanding the Lagoon's oyster populations in 2014, about 130 VBPS members spent over 3,100 hours on Save the Lagoon activities! As the year went on, we expanded our in-house oyster mat assembly efforts by focusing on students involvement with numerous young people from Vero Beach High School, Gifford Middle School, Saint Edwards School, The Willow School, Boys & Girls Clubs of Vero Beach, Sebastian & Fellsmere, the Gifford Youth Activity Center, the Boys & Cub Scouts, and a local girls rowing club.

In March 2014, our members, including those from our Paddle Group, laid 1,200 mats in the Lagoon, and we plan to lay a similar number in 2015. In addition, we participated in the 7th Annual Treasure Coast Waterway Cleanup and developed a plan to integrate spoil island cleanups in our monthly power boat beach ups.

Realizing that VBPS cannot solve all of the Lagoon's problems, we developed another goal of replication. In this regard, we testified before the Sebastian Natural Resources Board and the Sebastian City Council which voted to adopt their own oyster expansion project. Further, Bob Scully established an Environmental Committee at the USPS District 8 level which will promote programs similar to our Save the Lagoon Committee in 13 other Squadrons from Sebastian through the Florida Keys. Finally, Sandy Souder was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Ocean Research and Conservation Association (ORCA) to focus on grant application and other fund raising activities to address environmental problems in the Lagoon and other Florida waterways.

Now for the future. Our Save the Lagoon Committee will have a three-pronged strategy during 2015. First, we will continue to use our members and young people from the groups described above to assemble oyster mats as a means of expanding the Lagoon's oyster population. This



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Calendar

year, we will focus on laying mats in the Lagoon just north of Grand Harbor.

Second, we will focus more on the spoil islands. In late 2014, Commander Warren Miller signed documents with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) to co-adopt, with the Moorings Yacht Club, spoil island number SL-03 due east of the FAU Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute entrance canal. In addition, the Squadron will join the new Friends of Spoil Islands (FOSI) which is a community support organization of FDEP and whose goals include island cleanup, promotion of recreational use, and elimination of exotic & maintenance of indigenous plants and trees.

Third, starting with Vero Beach High School, our Squadron will establish partnerships with area schools' environmental clubs. The purpose of these partnerships is to extend what is taught in the classroom with the real world by taking Club members out on our boats. Possible field trip topics include water quality testing by students and new water testing equipment and web-based data collection used by ORCA (Kilroys) and Harbor Branch (LOBOs)

As you can see, 2015 will be an exciting year for the Save the Lagoon Committee. I again want to thank everyone who participated last year. Please contact me if you would like to be part of this important work in the new year.

Commander - Cdr Robert Sheridan, AP



Greetings to all

As this year comes to a close I want to express my sincere appreciation for the support of our membership and in particular the support of my Bridge Officers. I am firmly convinced that without their dedication, motivation, and professionalism my tenure as Commander would have been much more difficult. I thoroughly enjoyed my time with all of them and for those who are leaving to pursue other options I wish them the best! I will be Chairman of the Executive Committee and your new Commander Mary Wohlstein has asked me to be her aide and I wholeheartedly accepted.

We accomplished a great deal this year as a Squadron and I am sure that with Mary as the new Commander along with her Bridge Officers for the coming year that we will continue to grow and prosper. I am sure that you are aware of all the additional associations and combined activities that were fostered by Mary this year, she has developed a strong relationship with these entities.

The last time I reported to you we had not entirely settled on our new lease, mainly due to the requirement for Flood Insurance, I am happy to report that this requirement has been removed. Our new lease is finalized and is for twenty five years, paid in full. I did sign an additional requirement to repair any and all water damage sustained by the Squadron, this was necessary to remove the Flood Insurance and should not be a problem for our membership!

A special thanks to Jim Ward, my Flag Officer, who helped guide me through the year and was of invaluable assistance and advice! In addition, a special thanks to Dan Thomas, my Aide, who was also tremendous help through the year. Dan did all of the organization, plans, and presented our request for a new lease before the City Council. This presentation was obviously the catalyst for our success and all I had to do was the cleanup and change some parameters.

Again, I am very grateful for all of the support and trust provided me by our membership and I am sure that Your new Commander will receive the same!

Thanks to all! Vero Beach Proud!

Commander, Robert Sheridan, AP

Executive Officer - Lt/C Mary Wohlstein, S

Bring on the New Year- a most important year for volunteers.

2015 was a very successful year in the Vero Beach Power Squadron. Members were constantly being called on to support some of our new initiatives with the

January Activities

Friday Night Socials - Every Friday @5:30PM --Dick Myers

Paddle Group-Sat. 2nd-The Amazon @ 9AM --Toby Jarman

Cruise Planning for VBPS boat trips (Captain's meeting)--Fri. 8th from 2 to 4 PM--Hugh Aaron

Executive/General Membership Meeting - Monday 11th @ 6 PM/7:30 PM--Bob Sheridan

Top Bowling Group @ Vero Bowl - Tuesday 12th @ 6:15--Nora Lichty

Lunch Cruise @ Harbortown Marina-Wednesday 13th --@ 11:30 PM-- Hugh Aaron

Birding Group starts-Thursday 14th@ TM Waterfowl Mgt @Fellsmere-8AM --Carolyn Cimino

Seminar (free)-"Bahamas Cruising"-Thursday 14th @ 7 PM--Chris & Alyse Caldwell

America's Boating Course - Saturday 16th @ 9 to 4:30PM-- Larry Lott

Change of Watch @ VBYS - Sunday 17th @ 5PM-- Jim Ward

New Member Orientation- Monday 18th at squadron from 7 to 9 PM --Dan & Kathie Thomas

Book Club Lunch- Wednesday 20th - Vero Beach Yacht Club @ 12:30 PM--Carole Brubaker

Biking Group starting on Saturday 23rd-details TBA-- Donna Hutchison

Ye Olde Friends Social - Monday 25th @ 5:30PM-- Kathie Thomas

Top Boat "Beach-Up" -Sat. 30th at SL-2 @ 11AM-- Joe Troiano

February Activities

Founders Day Dinner - Saturday 6th @ 5 PM --Carol Brubaker & Mary Wohlstein



Vero Beach Chamber of Commerce - the Nina and Pinta visit, the Veteran's Parade, the Piratefest, and the In-water Christmas Boat Parade. Other members volunteered their time in support of on-going initiatives such as ECO-fest, Boys and Girls Fishing Outing, Treasure Coast Waterway Cleanup, and the 2 annual Boat Shows. All of these efforts were recognized by City Council when they granted our 25 year lease late last year.

Executive/General Membership Meeting - Monday 8th @ 6 PM/7:30 PM --Mary Wohlstein

Cruise to Miami Boat Show--starting about Tues. 9th thru 17th--Hugh Aaron



In the new year, volunteers are needed to participate on the Public Relations Committee and the Building Maintenance Committee and volunteers are always needed to host the social events and the Friday night social.

Bowling Group @ Vero Bowl - Tuesday 9th @ 6:15 PM-- Nora Lichty

If any of these activities peak your interest and you feel that you would like to help, please do not hesitate to contact me at m_wohlstein@yahoo.com. It is a great way to meet other members of the Squadron.

Paddle Group--Thursday 11th at Turkey Creek @ 10 AM--Toby Jarman

Several important events are coming up in the next few months. Jim and Judy Ward are putting the finishing touches on the 60th Annual Change of Watch scheduled for Sunday, January 17 at 5pm at the VBPS. All members are encouraged to attend to witness the swearing in of the Officers you selected to lead the Squadron in 2016.

USPS Annual National Meeting @ Orlando - Wed 15th to 21st - National Event

The Annual Founder's Day Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, February 6 at 5pm at the VBPS. Carole Brubaker and I will host the event but will be looking for volunteers to help. Watch for the flyer and sign-up sheet coming out later this month.

Seminar (Free) -"Safety on Board"--Thursday 18th @ 7 PM- Chris & Alyse Caldwell

The USPS National Meeting will be held in Orlando February 15 to 20. I have already made my reservations to attend. All members are invited.

Raft-Up @ Faber Cove - Wednesday 24th @ 11:30 AM-- Hugh Aaron

My favorite event of the year and one that is near and dear to my heart is the 4th Annual Ladies Luncheon and Fashion Show to benefit VNA Hospice. This event will be held at the VBYP on Saturday, February 27 at 11:30pm. Tickets must be purchased in advance and will be available after February 1 at VBPS, VNA Hidden Treasures - Vero, and VNA Hidden Treasures - Sebastian. Our own Tom Barrett has generously donated his time again this year to provide music for the show.

Ladies' Lunch & Fashion Show (for VNA) @VBYP--Sat. 27th @11:30 AM-- Mary Wohlstein

My sincerest thanks to all of you for your support in 2015 - I look forward to working with you again in 2016. We can all be Vero Beach Proud!

Boat "Beach-Up" -Sat. 27th-location TBA @11 AM--Joe Troiano

Mike and I would like to wish you, your families, and those you hold dear, a Very Happy and Healthy New Year.

Ye Old Friends social - Monday 29th @ 5:30 PM-- Kathie Thomas

Lt/C Mary Wohlstein, S
Executive Officer

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Birthdays

Administrative Officer - Lt Tamara Smith

Happy New Year to all the VBPS members, may your New Year be happy, healthy and prosperous!



This past year has been wonderful because of all the members who have run the Friday night socials, the biking group, the birding group, the bowling group, the book club, the beach-ups, the raft-ups, the paddle group, the movie group, ladies luncheons, and our fabulous dinner parties! We have an amazing social calendar-you can always find something to do! Thanks to all who make this possible! Please see Dick Myers in the coming year about getting or staying involved!

Some more improvements have been made to the Squadron Building this year with sconces installed in the front educational room and the back dining room and a new fan light in the bar area. This will improve our lighting for the Friday socials and dinner parties. Thanks to Wayne Smith and Scott Fisher for installing the new lighting.

We also have a new fire pit on our back patio for cool nights overlooking the beautiful Barber Bridge and lagoon installed by John Spilman. Thank you to John as well!

Looking ahead, we will be working closely again with the Chamber of Commerce on many exciting events in the new year. We will have a booth again at the two Vero Beach Boat Shows to share information about vessel safety and education offered by our club. Ed Carr is taking care of our booth at EcoFest at the ELC coming up in March. Dick Carlin is planning our first Boys and Girls Fishing Event in March where volunteers take the children fishing and provide lunch after. A wonderful chance to touch the life of a child and make a difference! Bill

Heimbaugh will be charting more of the lagoon with the Co-Op Charting Committee. Dan Thomas is providing the vessel safety checks we encourage for all boaters. Barbara Ebstein will be setting up events with the VBYC as our Liaison Committee Chair. Chris Caldwell educates us each month with wonderful safety tips as our Safety Officer. Bob Scully will be chair of the Public Relations Committee. Mike Wohlstein will be chair of the Radio Technical Committee and Toby Jarman who chairs our Environmental Committee continues doing wonderful projects to save the lagoon and improve our spoil islands.

Thank you for electing me your new Executive Officer for the year of 2016... I will always do the best I can do for our club! Please never hesitate to call with any questions or concerns!

All the Best
Lt Tamara Smith - Elect
Admin Officer

Education Officer - Lt/C Douglas Jacoby, AP



With the start of the New Year, our winter classes are underway. We have 35 students enrolled ... growth in enrollment over last year! Even better is that within that total are 15 students in Seamanship which is the first course in the Advanced USPS training track... meaning likely enrollment increases for the sequential Advanced courses. We still have more to grow, but it is good to see an increase in our members realizing the importance of boating education.



Additionally during this winter season, we have scheduled two evening seminars being offered by Squadron members Captains Chris and Alyse Caldwell. On Thursday, 14 January, 7PM at the Squadron building... **Bahamas Bound: Destination Abacos.** A second seminar is scheduled on Thursday, 18 February, 7pm at the Squadron building... **Thinking Beyond Safety Equipment on Board.** Send an email to Doug Jacoby, SEO, at edu@verobeachpowersquadron.com.

As we start the New Year, Larry Lott and his team are starting their first of six ABC training days for 2016. The January date is Saturday, 16 January, 9-4:30 at the Squadron building. Please email Larry at vbps-safeboatingclass@gmx.com . or Doug at the email address above.

See the VBPS website for more description of the seminars and the full ABC calendar for the year.

Hope to see you in class.

Lt/C Douglas Jacoby, AP
Education Officer

Last two months in pictures

Halloween at VBPS

Becker, Ferdinand	01/01
Fanders, Mirabel	01/01
MacLeod-Bilotta, Patricia	01/03
Rebik, Thomas L.	01/03
Ziamba, Michael D.	01/03
Helm, Donald	01/04
Simon, Ellis D.	01/04
Rose, Glenn	01/05
Thompson, Jean R.	01/05
Maddalla, Thomas W.	01/06
Davis, Edmund R.	01/07
Yunker, Virginia E.	01/07
Tucker, John H.	01/08
Czernicki, Daniel A.	01/09
Blados, Colleen M.	01/11
Winger, Richard G.	01/12
Archer, Raleigh R.	01/15
Hargreaves, Sandra T.	01/18
Miller, Ron A.	01/18
Mooney, Jan	01/18
Kiefer, Larry F.	01/19
Bargren, Caroline F.	01/20
Barberi, Linda L.	01/22
Jacobs, Suzanne	01/22
Kennedy, Eileen M.	01/22
Smith, Wayne M.	01/22
Gallagher, Paul J.	01/25
Jarman, Jo Ann	01/25
Chatterton, Judith A.	01/28
Reimer, Dale A.	01/28
Dillon, Stafford	01/29
Jacoby, Douglas B.	01/29
Troiano, Lois L.	01/29

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Photos by Scott Fisher

On the water Boat Parade



Photos by Rey Neville

Downtown Christmas Parade

- Butts, Barbara W. 02/03
- Hutchinson Jr., N. Roger 02/04
- Michini, Joanne F. 02/05
- Ray Jr., Henry W. 02/05
- Switzer, James E. 02/06
- Peterson, William A. 02/08
- Vauter, Richard P. 02/08
- Finney, Mary Elizabeth 02/09
- Juliano, Peter E. 02/09
- Powers, Michalene S. 02/09
- Becker, Connie J. 02/11
- Mattern, Donald E. 02/11
- Matusiak, Bob 02/14
- Farrell, Kathryn M. 02/15
- Bayless, Deborah M. 02/17
- Chadwick, Barbara L. 02/18
- Rebik, Nancy A. 02/18
- Scully, Robert 02/18
- Wangen, Pat M. 02/18
- Casey, Jeremiah P. 02/20
- Bilotta, Frank 02/21
- Bowman, Lois 02/21
- Ferguson, Andrea C. 02/22
- Jones, Pam S. 02/22
- Juliano, Bette M. 02/22
- Hague, Susan 02/25
- Barnes, Mary L. 02/27
- Cousins, Doris E. 02/27
- Fuller, Margaret P. 02/27

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Ensign - Fall 2016



Pieces of Eight - Winter 2015

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Photos by John Luca

Lady's Luncheon



Photos by Rey Neville

2015 VBPS Christmas Party



Photos and composition courtesy of Joe Mumaw

PADDLE GROUP - Toby Jarman, S

The VBPS Paddle Group has an outing on the first Saturday of the month, except the hot summer months. On November 7, our Group had a fantastic paddle from Round Island Park to St. Lucie County Spoil Island #2 (SL-02). Counting my dog, Winston, we had 31 participants. Many in our group had never been on a spoil island, so SL-02 was a real treat. After exploring the island with it's beautiful beach, we had a picnic. Upon our return to Round Island Park, we were greeted by 10-12 manatees! What a great day! If you would like to join our Group, please contact me at jotoby@moonriveriii.com.



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Safety

Bilge Pumps.

Do you know if your bilge pump will pump the water out of your boat when the water rises? Many of you may test the pump by using the ON switch on the dashboard of the boat. Maybe you might reconsider that method and instead try to use a shirt hanger to LIFT the float switch. Here's why: The dashboard switch proves the motor runs. Just lifting the float switch proves the float switch and motor work but that's all. Do you know if the system will pump water out of the boat? Best way to prove the bilge pump system works is to use the FLOOD test. Yes, flood your bilge with water and watch the bilge pump system work (or not). Be aware of pinched discharge hoses, observe for symptoms of a stuck check valve which are called one-way valves and confirm the through-hull fittings are opened. Check all your bilge pump systems- forward, mid-ship and aft. Did you know you may have more than one bilge pump?

See you on the water...
Chris & Alyse Caldwell

SPECIAL EDUCATION EVENT:
TWO NEW WINTER SEMINARS

BAHAMAS BOUND: DESTINATION ABACOS

**CAPTAINS CHRIS AND ALYSE CALDWELL
THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 2016
7:00 pm
Vero Beach Power Squadron Building**

A cruise to the Abacos is no longer the great mystery it once was. Captains Chris and Alyse discuss everything from supplies to available forms of communications, and Customs and immigration issues you'll experience in getting there and back. Modern Electronics make the crossing easier and in less than one day most boats find a wonderful marina and restaurant awaiting their arrival.

**THINKING BEYOND SAFETY EQUIPMENT ON BOARD
CAPTAINS CHRIS AND ALYSE CALDWELL
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2016
7:00 PM
Vero Beach Power Squadron Building**

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New Members



John Michlovic

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Chaplains Corner

Thanksgiving

I am writing this article over Thanksgiving but the message is timeless. In fact, is there ever a time to not be thankful? One might be discouraged or dissatisfied with their current situation but in fact they should thank God (or their lucky stars) that at least they have a situation. Contemplate on the real value of the worthwhile things already received that have been taken for granted. All things considered, we have been very fortunate. We have a abundance of gifts in our treasure trove. Focus now should be on using our tools, talents, and situation to serve others. In the long run my friends, we will be serving ourselves.

Questions and comments:
Lt/Chaplain Tom Jones

SGM F.T. Jones III

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

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2/5/2016

[View as a webpage](#)

This edition of the Nautical News closes out 2015 . With a new Bridge and new blood 2016 should be an exciting year. Hold on!

Thanks,

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.nauticalnews@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.