

# UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRON

January 2017 The Tidings



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San Carlos Bay Sail & Power Squadron

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January, 2017

### **ACTIVITIES FOR January, 2017 CLASSES & SPECIAL EVENTS**

1/7 ó ABC class  
1/13 ó Change of Watch

### **The Commanders Message**

Cdr. Bill Behrens,P

Hello fellow squadron members.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

When you read this it will be the end of December, the end of 2016 (whew, it went by fast!) and the beginning of a new year, 2017! Along with that, the San Carlos Bay Sail & Power Squadron's Change of Watch is coming up *very* soon.

This is my first column as (soon to be) commander. I will have many things to say (all good, I assure you!) at the Change of Watch about the then past commander, Ron Terciak. I am honored to be the incoming commander, and know those are mighty big shoes to fill!

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I am also honored and feeling very, very good about having Ron staying active and being the squadron Executive Officer, amongst other important responsibilities for which he has volunteered and at which he is excellent.

The Bridge for 2016, and the incoming Bridge for 2017, is comprised of folks who stepped up and gave of themselves, or will be giving of themselves in 2017, as the nucleus of our squadron. We could not continue on without them.

I wish to extend my thanks to the members of the 2016 Bridge, and extend my thanks to the members of the incoming 2017 Bridge. You are, each and every one, fantastic people and it is my privilege to know you and òworkò side-by-side with you furthering our squadron.

We set some very good base lines and standards in 2015, and again in 2016, and all will strive to continue on that path for 2017.

Continued on page 9 column 1



***From the editor:***

**Use your QR scanner on your smart phone, ipad etc. and scan the above QR code to access the San Carlos Bay Sail & Power Squadron website [www.scbps.com](http://www.scbps.com) ▲**

# UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRON

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SAN CARLOS BAY  
SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON  
P.O. Box 5026  
Ft. Myers Beach, FL. 33932-5026  
(239) 466-4040

Web Site @ www.scbps.com  
Chartered 9 December 1968  
A Unit of the United States Power Squadron  
District 22 @ Sail & Power Boating

Commander  
Cdr. Bill Behrens  
(239) 470-1773

TIDINGS Staff

Editor P/C John J. Ragone, P

Assistant Marie Ragone, P.

Published monthly except June, July and August

**ARTICLE SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 15<sup>TH</sup> of  
month before month of issue**

Refer to the 2016-2017 membership directory for  
Squadron Organization chart, Addresses, Committee  
Chairs, Telephone Numbers, and Other Information

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Ron Terciak, JN  
Commander

NMLS #412537

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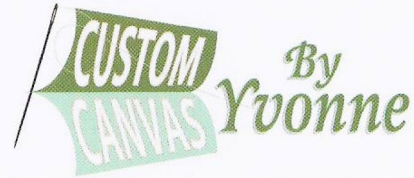
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### BOOSTERS FOR 2017

We have **CONTINUED** our **“Booster”** program again to support our squadron.

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**John Ragone**  
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# UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRON

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## Change of Watch - COW

Hello everyone,

A note to announce that our 48th annual Change of Watch will be held at The Helm Club located at The Landings Yacht and Racquet Club in Fort Myers on Friday, January 13 Cocktails at 6pm and dinner at 7pm sharp. Please mark the date on your calendar.

Lt/C Ron Terciak, JN  
San Carlos Bay Power Squadron



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## From the 2016 Administrative Officer

Lt/C Rosie Cordes, P.

In the northern states, fall is symbolized by cooler temperatures and leaves changing colors. In Florida, fall means that the manatees are on the move from the chilly gulf waters to warm water places around the power plants like Manatee Park in Fort Myers. Once the gulf and bay water temperatures dip below 68 degrees, manatees begin their annual migration up the Orange River and even Imperial River, to warmer waters. Manatees on the move also mean slower speeds in many areas of Estero Bay so be sure to keep an eye out for them. Even though adult manatees weigh about 1,000 pounds, they can still be difficult to see, especially since they swim just below the surface.

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Seeing a large number of manatees in one place is an amazing experience. At Manatee Park, located on SR 80 across from the Florida Power and Light plant, there are several viewing areas where you can see the manatee in their natural environment. There is also a butterfly garden, picnic shelters and kayak rentals. Park fees are \$2/hour or \$5/day from December through March. On the east coast, Manatee Lagoon, located in Palm Beach County adjacent to the Riviera Beach FPL plant, is new and free. It, too, has a dedicated area to view manatees up close. It also has hands-on exhibits and information on the surrounding Lake Worth Lagoon. So if you are looking for something to do during the colder months here in Florida, or if you have visitors to entertain, consider visiting one of these interesting and educational parks.

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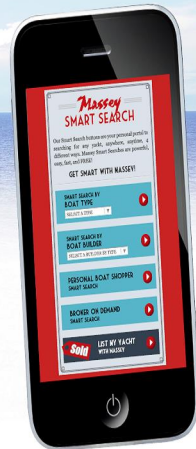
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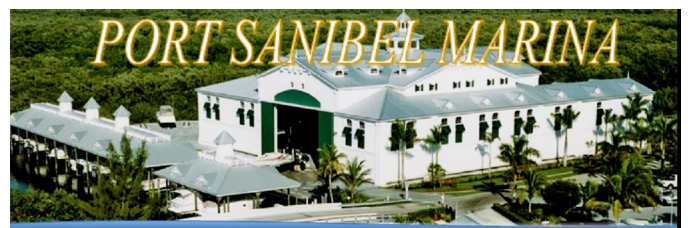


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## Happy Birthday January, 2017

Cordes	David E.	20-Jan
Morris	Kenneth J.	16-Jan
Ragone	Marie	10-Jan
Shaw	Jeanne	12-Jan
Simons	Kenneth M	31-Jan
Tysdal	Debi	19-Jan

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For more information, visit Manatee Park at <https://www.leegov.com/parks/facility?fid=0088>, and Manatee Lagoon at <http://www.visitmanateelagoon.com/visit/>



**Boating Safety Column**

By John Swenson

EPIRBS and PLBS

Vessel disabled? Lost at sea? No working electronic devices? You're in big trouble. At the very least, you need an EPIRB; you should also have a PLB.

An Emergency Position-Indicating Radio Beacon is known as an EPIRB, while a Personal Locator/Location Beacon is called a PLB. Both emit a distress radio signal designed to locate positions in the event of an emergency, but there are significant differences between the two. The EPIRB identifies the position of the *vessel* in distress. It is larger than a PLB and meant to remain with the vessel. The PLB identifies the position of an *individual*, and is meant to remain with that individual. For this reason, PLBs are useful to those who engage in a variety of outdoor activities ó backcountry skiing and hiking, hunting, etc. -- where the possibility of being unable to use conventional means of summoning help in an emergency is very real.

In an emergency, both the EPIRB and the PLB send out a 406 MHz distress radio signal, which is picked up by Cospas-Sarsat satellites. Once detected, the satellites relay the signal to a ground station which relays the signal to the closest search and rescue (SAR) points manned by authorities who are capable of initiating a search and rescue operation.

PLBs actually send out two signals, one which allows to rescuers to determine a position within 100 meters or so, and a second, which, once rescuers are within that 100m area, will allow an SAR tracking device to pinpoint an exact location.

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Like any piece of safety equipment carried on your vessel or on your person, the hope is that you'll never have to use it, but being prepared for emergencies is the whole point of carrying it. An EPIRB for your vessel and a PLB for yourself are valuable additions to your safety equipment arsenal.

There is a wealth of information online about the different types of EPIRBS and PLBs. For recreational boaters who venture offshore, it would be well worth investigating.

As always, be prepared, be safe!



Happy New Year

From San Carlos Bay



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Continued from page 1 column 2

I am hopeful all of our squadron members will try their best to attend the upcoming Change of Watch evening on Friday, January 13, 2017. It allows us to get together and share a wonderful event. Participation in as many of our events, get-togethers and functions as possible is an important element of our squadron.

The overall operative word and goal for 2017 is

**F U N !!!**

We need to remember that important word in all of our endeavors, because while fulfilling our squadron manifest of boating safety, boater safety, boater education and squadron civic contributions, we should never lose sight of the very important social aspects of the power squadrons. So, we can, together, accomplish all of that and have FUN doing so!

## ***From the SEO***

Lt/C Melissa Butler, AP

Happy New Year!

For 2017, we're starting the year with several advanced courses. Piloting and Advanced Piloting both start up on January 10. Instructor Development begins on January 4. If you are interested in either of these courses, contact me ASAP ([butterm@wabash.edu](mailto:butterm@wabash.edu)) and I'll put in an extra order for materials.

Also, the Sanibel-Captiva Squadron will be offering two elective multi-week courses beginning in the upcoming weeks. These are Marine Electrical Systems beginning January 5 and Marine Communications beginning February 23. Both courses will be offered at the St. Charles Yacht Club which means students won't need to fight through Sanibel traffic.

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In addition, if you would like to brush up on your understanding of maritime rules, San-Cap is offering the short USPS seminar on "Mastering Rules of the Road." Seminars are short, self-contained experiences that take about two hours. This one takes place on January 14 at the Captiva Island Yacht Club. To sign up for any of these San-Cap offerings, point your browser to <http://usps.org/cgi-bin/nat/eddept/800/cfindx.cgi?C>.

I am sending this message to San Carlos Bay Squadron members who have completed Piloting. Al Ponzio is going to offer Advanced Piloting, starting in January on Tuesday mornings at 9 AM. (It is currently scheduled to start on Jan. 3, but I've asked Al to push the start date back to Jan. 10). Cost is \$55, with additional charges if you need The Weekend Navigator or piloting tools.

Earlier, some of you indicated an interest in taking this course. But now it is time for me to order the materials, so I need some definite commitments.

Please let me know ASAP if you are interested (or if you've told me before, and you are STILL interested) in taking the class. I want to get the order for materials in this week. Thanks.

**Subject:** Courses offered by Sanibel-Captiva Squadron

Bob Orr from San-Cap has sent me a message that their Squadron will be offering three classes next year that might be of interest to SCBPS members. They are:

Marine Electrical Systems beginning January 5 at the St. Charles Yacht Club.

Mastering Rules of the Road Seminar on January 14 at the Captiva Island Yacht Club

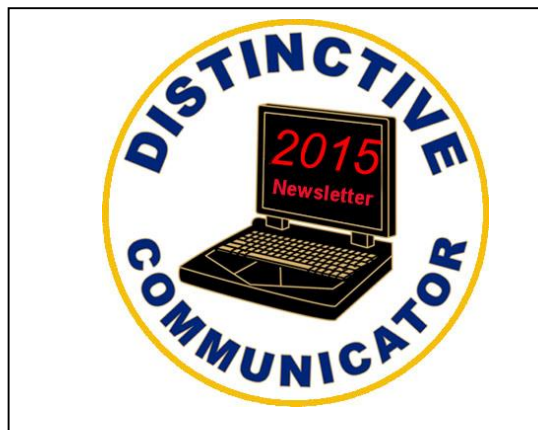
Marine Communications beginning February 23 at the St. Charles Yacht Club

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Continued from page 9 column 2

If you are interested in any of these, you can contact Bob Orr at [robert.orr1663@comcast.net](mailto:robert.orr1663@comcast.net), or look them up and register on the USPS website:

<http://www.usps.org/cgi-bin/nat/eddept/800/cfindx.cgi?C>

## ***From the Executive Officer***

Lt/C Ron Terciak, JN

This is my first article as the squadron Executive Officer. I look forward to working with our new squadron commander Bill Behrens. Under Bill's leadership we head forward with a bright future. As Executive Officer I will have new duties and responsibilities, some of which will be Coop Charting and the Vessel Safety Check (VSC) programs.

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Last year we performed 231  $\delta VSC\delta\delta\delta$ , a new squadron record. We hope to exceed 250 in 2017.

I also will be working with Bill, Ted Lawill and Jim Strothers of the Sanibel/Captiva Squadron on our Cooperative Charting program. There are lots of parts to the COOP Charting program and we will need a lot of help if we are to be successful with this project. As we get further along I will keep you posted on where we are and what we need.

As we begin our new season I want to thank all of the officers of past squadron bridges that I have had the fortune to work with. We might not be in existence today if not for all your past work and confidence.

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The above pictures were taken by Ron Terciak at the December C&R at Shell Point

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*United States Power Squadrons®*

## ***SAN CARLOS BAY SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON***

### **2017**

#### **BRIDGE / EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE / ELECTED ASSISTANT POSITIONS and NOMINATING, AUDITING & RULES COMMITTEES**

##### **Bridge Officers & Executive Committee Members**

Commander .....	Bill Behrens
Executive Officer .....	P/C Ron Terciak
Educational Officer .....	Melissa Butler
Administrative Officer.....	Nancy Chambers
Secretary.....	Jane Aube
Treasurer.....	Ken Morris

##### **Executive Committee P/C & Members-at-Large**

Immediate Past Commander .....	P/C Mary Smelter
Member-at-Large .....	P/C Dan Flinn
Member-at-Large .....	Bob Shaw
Member-at-Large .....	Michael Aube
Member-at-Large .....	Bob Amerine

##### **Elected Assistant Positions**

Assistant Education Officer .....	P/C Charlie Richardson
Assistant Administrative Officer.....	John Manos
Assistant Secretary .....	Jeanne Shaw
Assistant Treasurer.....	Wayne Berger

##### **Nominating Committee**

P/C Dave Lum  
Dick Battles

##### **Auditing Committee**

P/C Marianne Ponzio  
Judy Berger

##### **Rules Committee**

Al Ponzio  
Bob Johnson