



DRAGON

TALES

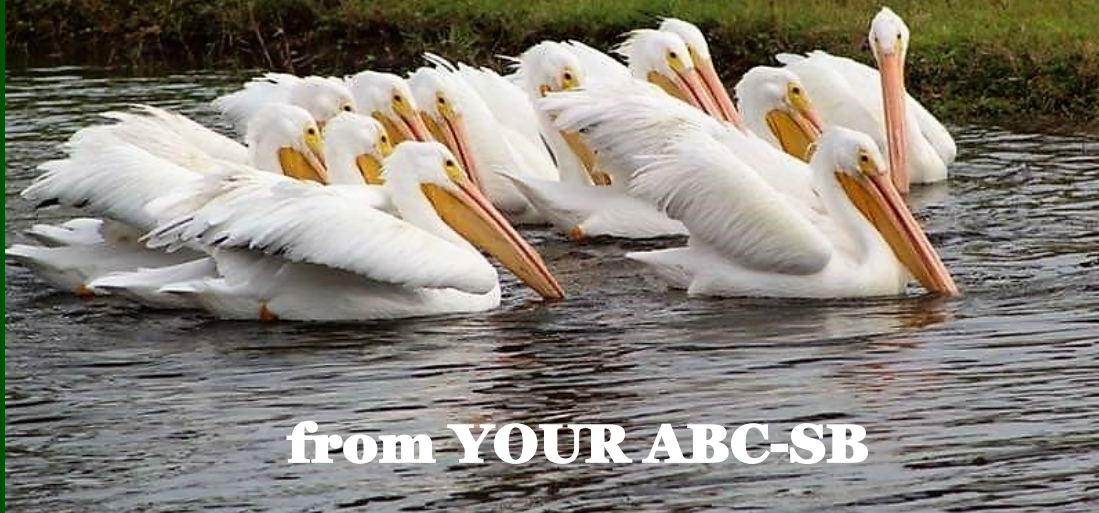
Volume 65; Number 12

www.abc-sb.com or www.bananariversps.org

December 2020



Happy Holidays



from **YOUR ABC-SB**

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AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

SOUTH BREVARD



Banana River SPS

2020 CHRISTMAS BOAT PARADE

Christmas Season is on the horizon and in spite of our best efforts we have not been able to conjure the right conditions for snow, ice and freezing temperatures to get you into the holiday mood...

But, do we have a **Christmas Boat Parade** to ignite the Season's Spirit on Saturday, December 19, 2020!

Three ways to enjoy the Parade:

1. Just decorate your boat and join it, or
2. Decorate your boat and register for the **Best Decorated Boat Contest**: \$150.00 cash prize for each of the three categories—Power under 30ft, Power greater than 30 ft and Sail unlimited size, or
3. View it from the Eau Gallie Causeway

Assemble at the north end of the canal at 5:30 PM

Parade starts at 6:00 PM

Detailed procedures will be given at a later date.

To register for the Best Decorated Boat Contests:

Please send the following information to:

BoatParade@ABCSB.org

First and last name

Complete address

Telephone and e-mail address

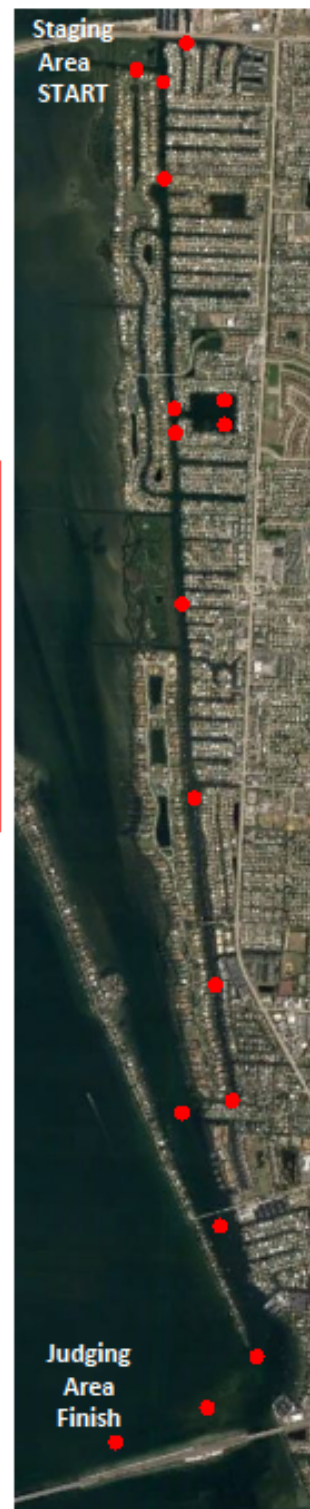
Boat type (power or sail)

Boat name and LOA



Registration Deadline is December 7

Questions ?? Call 321-220-7775



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**COME CELEBRATE
THE SEASON WITH US!**

ABC-SB Holiday Party

**Monday December 21
6:30 pm Social
7:15 Dinner
(Order off the menu)**

**The Broken Barrel Tavern
4700 Babcock St NE
Palm Bay, FL 32905**

**RSVP by Dec 14 to
Monika Bradley
mbradleycpa@aol.com
360 286-1399**

Friends and Family Welcome!



ABC-SB HOLIDAY PARTY

WACKY GIFT EXCHANGE
What do you have hiding in your closet?
Value \$15ish



Haven For Children Gift Drive
Select an unwrapped gift off the list sent out via email (or any other toy).
Make a child HAPPY this year!



Food Pantry Drive
Donate nonperishable food items to help those in need.



FROM THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT BY SEO P/D/Lt/C Ernst Hofmann, JN

UPCOMING SEMINARS

ENGINE MAINTENANCE #1-3



23 January

Outboard and I/O Lower Unit Maintenance and Dissection: Experience the annual maintenance required to keep your lower unit in tip-top shape. Find out what you need to keep an eye out for so you can avoid the expense of replacing one. We will also split open a lower unit to expose the gears and clutch.

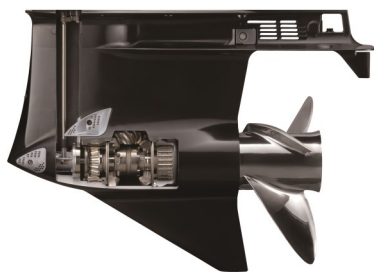
30 January

Basic Engine Diagnostics: Learn about what is required for an engine to run by evaluating an antique outboard to determine its viability. Understand how the fire triangle you learned about in school relates to making an engine work.

6 February

Carburetor Cleaning: Unlock the mysteries of carburetors, among the highest maintenance items for many items, from weed-eaters & lawn mowers to outboards & inboards. With the advent of ethanol based fuels, when we let any gasoline engine sit for a prolonged period of time often the first thing to stop working is the carburetor, so we will tear some down and show how to clean/rebuild them.

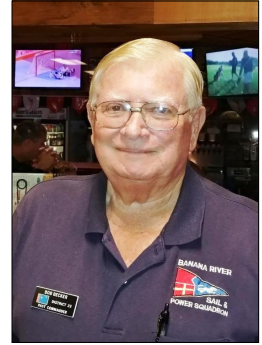
All seminars will be roughly two hours, exact time to be determined. If interested, please contact Cdr Merker at 321 604-9342 or jm@piratesplay.com for details.



**Remember, we do not just offer boating education –
we provide superior boating education!**

FROM THE SQUADRON MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN; P/D/C/Bob Becker, SN

The Time to Plan is Now



While the following has nothing to do with boating, during this crazy time we are living in, this might be a good time to review your Legal Documents. When was the last time you sat down and looked them over and/or updated them?

Getting your documents together is the first step. Once this has been accomplished, it's time to review and update as necessary. You definitely want to review if you have any marriage or birth documents in your family, especially if you have moved, changed jobs, retired, or opened or closed a business in the past. Another review should take place when your children turn 18, when you start receiving Social Security and/or start receiving Medicare.

Important documents to review include wills, powers of attorney, trusts, health care proxies, and any advance medical directives. You will want to make sure the documents are still valid, and those named as guardians, trustees and executors are still capable and willing to do the jobs you outlined for them.

As a part of the review it's a great time to check your folder where you keep all your documents. Ensure that your lists of insurance contracts, income, and personal contacts (lawyers, accountants) are still valid. And most important, let at least one person know where you keep your documents and how to retrieve them. If you have a home safe let someone you trust know the combination. It is also a good idea to make duplicate copies of the most important documents and give said copies to the person you have named as executor. The time to do a review is now.

While we usually don't want to discuss our demise, during this COVID virus time, one never knows what each day might bring. Take the time to dig out, put together and review your important documents. You will be doing yourself and your family an important service in making future life-decisions less complicated.



AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

SOUTH BREVARD

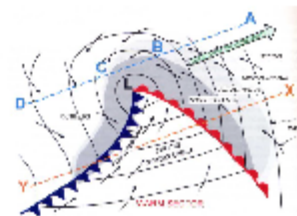


Banana River Sail and Power Squadron, Inc.

COURSES ON DEMAND: Select from the list and please let us know what course you would like to take and we will schedule it. Minimum class size is five. Let us know at Edu@BananaRiverSPS.org.



BASIC BOATING (ABC3)
 Early 2021, possibly late January
 Jr BASIC BOATING (11-17 yrs)
 March 15, 16 and 17, 2021
 BOAT HANDLING (Repl. Seamanship)



MARINE NAVIGATION
 ADVANCED MARINE NAVIGATION
 OFFSHORE NAVIGATION
 CELESTIAL NAVIGATION

TO BE
 TAKEN IN
 SEQUENCE



TWO-HOUR HANDS-ON SEMINARS
 (Dates are tentative)
 Jan 23: OUTBOARD AND I/O Lower Unit maintenance and dissection
 Jan 30: BASIC ENGINE DIAGNOSTICS Evaluate an antique and determine its viability
 Feb 6: CARBURETOR CLEANING Inboards and outboards, lawn mowers, weed eaters



WWW.abcsb.ORG 321-220-7775

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FLARE-UP NOVEMBER

Saturday, November 21

Eau Gallie Boat Ramp



Cdr Jim Merker explains the difference between different pyrotechnic flares and their uses. Above are Ed and Karen Cornthwhite, recent graduates of the ABC-SB Boat Handling class. Another Flare-Up will be scheduled for Spring 2021.



Non-pyrotechnic Visual Distress Signaling Devices



Must carry the manufacturer's certification that they meet Coast Guard requirements. They must be in serviceable condition and stowed to be readily accessible. This group includes:

- Orange distress flag
 - Electric distress light
- No single signaling device is ideal under all conditions and for all purposes. Consideration should therefore be given to carrying several types. For example, an aerial flare can be seen over a long distance on a clear night, but for closer work, a hand-held flare may be more useful.

SOS Distress Light

The SOS Distress Light is an LED Visual Distress Signal Device that meets U.S. Coast Guard requirements to completely replace traditional pyrotechnic flares. Unlike traditional flares, this electronic flare never expires, which solves the challenge of flare disposal. The LED light flashes up to 60 hours, unlike traditional flares that last minutes or less. It flashes only the SOS sequence and is visible up to 10 nautical miles.



Day Use Only

Hand Held Orange Smoke Distress Signals

Hand held distress signals are very common. Make sure to hold the flare with a glove, and make sure to keep the smoke down-wind of your boat.



Floating Orange Smoke Distress Signals

These come in two varieties, one lasting approximately 5 minutes, one lasting 15 minutes.



Non-pyrotechnic Visual Distress Signaling Devices

Orange Distress Signal Flag for Boats

The distress flag must be at least 3 x 3 feet with a black square and ball on an orange background. It is accepted as a day signal only and is especially effective in bright sunlight. The flag is most distinctive when waved on something such as a paddle or a boat hook or flown from a mast.



Sea-marker Dye

This is useful when air search has been initiated. Comes in several colors, and should be used when chances of being spotted are high.



Signal Mirror

Although not recognized by USCG as a carriage requirement, a well-handled signal mirror can be very effective in calling attention to oneself. It is low in cost and has an unlimited shelf life.



Night Use Only

Electric Distress Light for Boats

The electric distress light is accepted for night use only and must automatically flash the international SOS distress signal, which is three short flashes, three long flashes, and three short flashes. Flashed four to six times each minute, this is an unmistakable distress signal, well known to most boaters. The device can be checked any time for service ability if shielded from view.

NOTE: An ordinary flashlight is not acceptable since it must be manually flashed and does not normally produce enough candle power. The Regulation States: "No person in-a boat shall display a visual distress signal on water to which this subpart applies under any circumstances except a situation where assistance is needed because of immediate or potential danger to the persons aboard."

Day and Night Use

- **Hand Held Flare Distress Signal**
- **Parachute Red Flare Distress Signals - (25 mm or larger)** These signals require use in combination with a suitable launching device.
- **Hand Held Rocket-Propelled Parachute Red Flare Distress Signals**
- **Distress Signal for Boats, Red Aerial**

Pyrotechnic Flare - These devices may be either meteor or parachute assisted type. Some of these signals may require use in combination with a suitable launching device.

FROM THE DESK OF THE SECRETARY: LT/C STEPHANIE MURPHY, P

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB – SOUTH BREVARD EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES (BANANA RIVER SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON)
DATE: Nov 10, 2020
LOCATION: Via GoToMeeting online due to Covid-19 Stay-at-Home orders

Exec Board Attending

Cdr Jim Merker, AP; P/C Shari Marshall, AP; Lt/C Monika Bradley, S, P/D/Lt/C Ernst Hofmann, JN; Lt/C Stephanie Murphy, P; Lt Wally Jones, S

Exec Board Absent

P/D/C Robert Becker, SN

Members & Guests

John Pechar

The meeting was called to order at **1901** by Cdr Merker. A quorum was present. Motion made and seconded to accept the Oct 13 meeting minutes.

Commander's Report:

USPS

National is considering setting up automatic renewal of dues via credit card on file. National stated that it is not competing with individual Squadrons for ABC3 students and that 1880 online ABC3 classes were sold. The statistics state that there is a student pool of 500,000 in the US and the Squadrons only average 6000 ABC3 students per year. Notice was given that USPS insurance does not cover disease liability. So please ensure that all functions are following establishment/city/county/state requirements for gatherings. If your squadron has a website, ensure that it is ADA compliant. Jim Merker is looking into this. Dec 1st (first Tuesday after Thanksgiving) is Day of Giving. USPS is on the list of non-profits who could use donations.

D23

The D23 Winter Council Mtg will be in January and the Spring Conference will be March 19-21 at the Holiday Inn Resort, Daytona Beach. Ernst Hofmann was



nominated as the D23 candidate for the USPS Chapman Award which will be awarded at the USPS Annual Meeting in Ponta Vedra. At the Fall Conference, Jim Merker received the D23 Wesley Mathews Award for Excellence in Teaching Aides.

Secretary's Report

BRSPS has 40 active members (Vecchios did not renew) and 1 associate member. The November 16th meeting will be in person and carried online via GoToMeeting. The program will be **Seamanship Under Adverse Conditions** by Ernst Hofmann. The December 21st meeting is our Holiday Party (discussed below). The January program will be **Presentation of Best Decorated Boat Awards** (or alternative program). The February program will be Ernst Hofmann discussing **Hurricane Anchoring Dilemmas**.

Treasurer's Report:

Monika Bradley provided the balances for both savings and checking accounts. Terri Friedlander performed the 2020 audit, and her letter detailing the audit findings was sent to the Secretary to be recorded. Amazon Smile deposited directly into our checking account \$34.84 for purchase activity from July 1 through September 30.

SEO Report

The Boat Handling test will be given on 11/12/20. The On-the-Water sessions will be 11/21/20 after the Flare-Up or another date TBD.

ABC3 will be 11/28 at the Satellite Beach Rec Ctr; Jim Merker, Tinker and Stephanie Murphy, and Ernst Hofmann will teach. John Pechar will bring refreshments. Tinker sent out the

FROM THE DESK OF THE SECRETARY: LT/C STEPHANIE MURPHY, P

class schedule for review by all teachers; Stephanie will do temperature checks on students. Currently there are 10 registered students for the class, a family of 4, a family of 5, and one student who couldn't come to the August class so rescheduled for this one. Jim Merker will be meeting one set of students on their boat at Telemark on 11/22/20 at 1pm for a combination Jump Start and On-the-Water Session. Other OTW will be set up with the other students after the class is over.

A Sail Course will begin in (January 2021) taught by Bill Veit.

An Engine Maintenance/Outboard Teardown will be scheduled for late January 2021/early February 2021.

Boat Parade

1. There are 109 names on email list; so far only 6 have registered for the Best Decorated Boat Contest.
2. There are 24 numbered signs remaining from last year.
3. We need to generate the procedures on VHF or cell phone.
4. Judges: Bill Gier accepted. Sent invite to Sat Bch Rec Center. Earl Gillespie declined. Ernst is also going to check with Valerie Dietrich. Maybe we can contact Hometown News or Coastal Angler for a judge..
5. Captains Meeting will be handled via email.
6. We need to move Marking Locations more toward deeper water. Boaters were using it as a traffic lane. This will be evaluated.
7. Gene Brogen, Satellite Beach Patrol Boat, is coordinating with Florida Fish and Wildlife personnel.
8. Discussion ensued regarding how many people do we need registered to actually have a decent Best Decorated Boat Contest and justify the \$450 expense.
9. We do not currently have a Santa Claus. Shari will contact Dave Hixenbaugh to see if

he is interested.

10. Can we use Facebook to advertise the parade? (ABC-South Brevard)

11. John Pechar said he can make his boat available if needed.

Old Business:

Holiday Party: Monday December 21st, 2020 at 6:30pm at Broken Barrel. We will hold both a Toy Drive & a Food Pantry Drive. Food will be dropped off at the Brevard Sharing Center in Melbourne to give out for the Holidays. Toys final dropoff destination TBD. Stephanie is awaiting calls from East Coast Early Learning Center and the Haven for Children.

New Business:

1. Merit Mark Request: Ernst Hofmann requested that people provide monthly reports of hours expended to be included in the Merit Mark System for 2021.
2. Storage Unit: The storage unit is paid up thru March 2021. We should plan on 2 special meetings at the site—the first to evaluate what needs to be kept and what should be tossed and the second to do the cleanout. This will be in January/February of 2021 if the unit has to be renewed on March 1st. John Pechar stated that he also has a key to the storage unit. There is at least one item that has value (large stainless steel skillet for picnics).
3. Cdr Merker asked everyone to think of fun events to hold this upcoming year so that we can all enjoy our boating friends.

The meeting was adjourned at **1948**.

Next Executive Committee meeting will be at 7:00pm on **December 8**, 2020 via Go To Meeting.

Submitted by Stephanie Murphy,
ABC-SB Secretary
11 November 2020

ABC3 Class

Saturday, November 28, 2020

Schechter Community Center, Satellite Beach



Tinker and Stephanie Murphy and Ernst Hofmann taught the one-day course. John Pechar helped set up the room to accommodate social distancing and served refreshments. There were 14 registered students for the class including two couples, a family of 4, a family of 5, and one student who couldn't come to the August class so rescheduled for this one. Nine students actually attended including one walk-in, and all passed the exam.

The On-The-Water session will be set up with the students over the course of the next couple of weeks,

*****&

JANUARY 2021 MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Live or On-line

Kelly's Burgers & Beer

Monday, January 18, 2021

7:00—8:30 p.m.

“Winners of Best Decorated Boat Contest”



Dear Charity Administrator,

This email is to notify you that **Banana River Sail and Power Squadron** (EIN: 59-6132611) has been issued a **\$34.84** donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program activity between July 1 and September 30, 2020.

The donation was deposited to your organization's bank account on or before November 12, 2020. It may take several days for the donation to appear in the account.

Thank you,
Your AmazonSmile Team



**ABC-SB Members who
have a December Birthday**

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

**Lloyd Anderson
Monika Bradley
Bill Veit**

**Juliette Bailer
Lonnie Pruitt**



GLASS IS CLASS

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or just a gift**

Call Shari at 734-347-2992 or shar44marsh@gmail.com

KELLY'S

BURGERS BEER

**650 N. Wickham Road
Melbourne, FL 32935
321 610-4580**

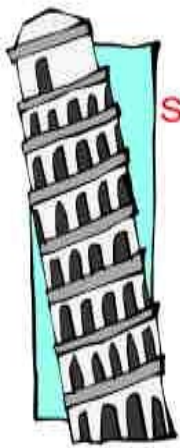




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You Don't Have To Go To Europe!
 See The Leaning Tower at 681-A N. Wickham Rd., Melbourne, FL 32935
 321-259-6100 or Fax 321-259-4227
 BRSPS members receive 10% discount
 with proof of membership

Leaning Tower of Pizza Restaurant



August 2008

Sponsored by Lt/John Dolce, AP

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AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB SOUTH BREVARD



Banana River Sail and Power Squadron

2021 BRIDGE OFFICERS

Commander
Cdr James Merker, AP
321-604-9342

Executive Officer
OPEN

Administrative Officer
OPEN

Educational Officer
P/D/Lt/C Ernst Hofmann, JN
321-777-9462

Secretary
Lt/C Stephanie Murphy, P
321-723-1817

Treasurer
Lt/C Monika Bradley, S
360-286-1399

Ex Officio
P/C Shari Marshall, AP
734-347-2992

MEMBERS AT LARGE

P/D/C Robert Becker, SN
Lt J Wally Jones, S

FINANCIAL REVIEW COMM

Lt Terri Friedlander

MEMBERSHIP COMM

P/D/C Robert Becker, SN

NOMINATING COMM

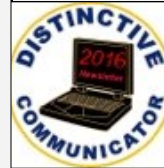
Lt J. Wally Jones, S

MERIT MARK CHAIR

P/D/Lt/C Ernst Hofmann, JN

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shar44marsh@gmail.com



Web Site:

www.abc-sb.com or
www.banariversps.org

ABC-SB (BRSPS)

Voice Mailbox—321-220-7775

General Membership Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of the month.

Dragon Tales, published monthly, is the official publication of ABC-SB (BRSPS). It is mailed to members, district, and national officers and our supporters. Opinions are those expressed by the writer and do not necessarily reflect the policy of nor imply agreement with the Dragon Tales staff, ABC-SB, D23, or USPS. At the discretion of the Dragon Tales staff, articles submitted may be printed in all, or in part, or may be rewritten. Advertisements appearing in the Dragon Tales are supplied by our supporters and no endorsement is expressed or implied.

America' Boating Club South Brevard
 2773 Floridiane Avenue
 Melbourne, FL 32935



ABC-SB Squadron web site - www.abc-sb.com or
www.bananariversps.org

ABC-SB Squadron Voice Mailbox - 321-220-7775
 Membership meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of
 the month .



----- Cut here to Clip Upcoming Events -----



UP-COMING SQUADRON & DISTRICT EVENTS — 2020

DECEMBER

| | | | |
|----|-----------------------|------|--|
| 8 | EXECUTIVE MEETING | 1900 | On-line Go-To-Meeting |
| 19 | CHRISTMAS BOAT PARADE | 1800 | North end of Grand Canal, Satellite Beach |
| 21 | HOLIDAY PARTY | 1830 | The Broken Barrel Tavern 4700 Babcock St NE, Palm Bay 32905 |

JANUARY 2021

| | | | |
|----|-------------------------------|------|---|
| 12 | EXECUTIVE MEETING | 1900 | On-line Go-To-Meeting |
| 18 | GENERAL MEETING | 1800 | Kelly's Burgers and Beer AND on-line Go-To-Meeting |
| 23 | ENGINE MAINTENANCE SEMINAR #1 | TBD | Home Workshop of Cdr Merker 2470 Arizona St, Melbourne 32904 |
| 30 | ENGINE MAINTENANCE SEMINAR #2 | TBD | Home Workshop of Cdr Merker |

FEBRUARY

| | | | |
|----|-------------------------------|------|--|
| 6 | ENGINE MAINTENANCE SEMINAR #3 | TBD | Home Workshop of Cdr Merker |
| 9 | EXECUTIVE MEETING | 1900 | On-line Go-To-Meeting |
| 15 | GENERAL MEETING | 1800 | Kelly's Burgers and Beer AND on-line Go-To-Meeting |

MARCH

| | | | |
|-------|------------------|-----|---|
| 15-17 | JR BASIC BOATING | 900 | Schechter Community Center 1089 S. Patrick Dr, Satellite Beach 32937 |
|-------|------------------|-----|---|