



# BEACHCOMBER



Formerly known as DAYTONA BEACH SAIL & POWER SQUADRON  
A Unit of United States Power Squadrons Sail & Power Boating

## FEBRUARY, 2026

- FEB 9:** McKenna's Fundraiser, Port Orange, 5-8 p.m. ,  
followed by Executive Committee Meeting
- 9-16:** USPS America's Boating Club National Conf.,  
Myrtle Beach, SC
- 19:** Squadron Dinner Mtg. Red Lobster, Daytona. 6:15
- MAR 12:** Executive Committee, HRYC, 7 p.m.
- 13-14** D23 Conference, Hilton Garden Inn, Lake Mary
- 21:** Vessel Safety Exams, Harbour Village Condos
- 22:** Change of Watch/Dinner Meeting, HRYC, 1 p.m.
- 23:** D23 Winter Council Via Zoom (TBA)
- APR 5:** Easter Sunday
- 9:** Executive Committee, HRYC, 7 p.m.
- 16:**Squadron Dinner Mtg. Red Lobster, Daytona. 6:15
- 25:** D23 Picnic, Herschel King Park, Flagler



### In this issue:

- Calendar
- Bridge and Committees
- Officers' Reports
- Activities
- Member Birthdays

# THE BRIDGE

## Commander:

Cdr. Paul Martines, JN

(386) 451-4575

paulmartinesd23@aol.com

## Executive Officer:

P/C Don Roman, AP

(386) 453-6456

andanteroman@mac.com

## Administrative Officer:

P/C Don Roman, AP

(386) 453-6456

andanteroman@mac.com

## Education Officers:

P/C William C. Benny, SN

(386) 871-8087

aikido09@hotmail.com

P/C Don Roman, AP

(386) 453-6456

andanteroman@mac.com

## Secretary:

D/Lt/C Sharon Neitzey

(386) 290-1243

sneitzey@aol.com

## Treasurer:

Lt/C Luc Labreche

(407) 761-2468

llabreche28@gmail.com



"I find the great thing in this world is not so much where we stand, as in what direction we are moving: To reach the port of heaven, we must sail sometimes with the wind and sometimes against it, but we must sail, and not drift, nor lie at anchor.  
- Oliver Wendall Holmes-

**Executive & General Committees**

**Executive Committee**

P/D/C Jeffrey T. Wise, JN  
Tom Leitzel, P  
Gary Foster, P  
Kathleen Foster, S  
Christine Zahornacky

**Finance/Audit Committee**

P/D/C Jeff Wise, JN  
P/C Cheryl W. Martines, A

**Nominating Committee**

P/C Don Roman, AP  
P/D/C Jeffrey Wise, JN

**Rules Committee**

Cdr Paul S. Martines, JN  
P/D/C Jeff Wise, JN

**Executive Department**

**Boat Show Committee**

P/C Don Roman, AP  
P/D/C Jeff Wise, JN

**Boating Safety Committee**

P/C Don Roman, AP

**Vessel Safety Check Committee**

P/C Don Roman, AP

**Commander's Department**

**Chaplain**

Lt /C Gary Foster, P

**Flag Lieutenant**

P/C Don Roman, AP

**Merit Mark Committee**

Cdr Paul S. Martines, JN

**Public Relations Committee**

P/C Don Roman, AP

**Educational Department**

**Assistant Educational Officer**

P/C Don Roman, AP

**Elective Courses**

P/C Will Benny, SN  
P/C Don Roman, AP  
P/D/C Tim Henke, JN-CN  
Tom Leitzel, P

**Administrative Department**

**Meetings & Programs Committee**

P/C Don Roman, AP

**Assistant Admin Officer**

P/D/C Jeff Wise, JN

**Membership Committee**

Cdr. Paul S. Martines, JN

**Operations Training**

PC Will Benny, SN

**Boating Activities Committee**

P/D/C Jeff Wise, JN

**Port Captain**

P/D/C Jeff Wise, JN

**Secretary's Department**

**Information Technology Committee**

D/Lt/C Sharon Neitzey  
Christine Zahornacky

**Public Contact**

P/C Don Roman, AP

**Ship's Store Committee**

Cdr Paul S. Martines, JN

**Webmaster Committee**

D/Lt/C Sharon Neitzey  
P/C Don Roman, AP  
Christine Zahornacky

**Historian**

Cdr. Paul S. Martines, JN

Website:



SCAN ME

abcdaytonabeach@gmail.com



SCAN ME

Facebook



FACEBOOK



## COMMANDER Cdr. Paul Martines, JN

These next few months are traditionally the busiest of our America's Boating Club year. This is the time when we welcome our new Bridge Officers for the next year and set new plans and goals. **WE NEED YOU!** We are looking for some new faces, new ideas, new energy, new ways to grow as an organization.

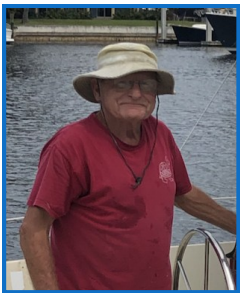
Serving in our leadership positions is not a huge commitment if we can share the duties and responsibilities. We need some new people to join our existing leadership in guiding our path for the future. Please consider stepping up to help us out. You could find great pleasure in being part of the success of our club.

Contact any Bridge Officer or Executive Committee Member for more information on the different positions available. Sit in on an Executive Meeting to see what that entails. We meet once a month for about an hour, so it isn't a huge time commitment.

In addition to those positions, some of our needs are: additional Vessel Examiners, someone to help create baskets for raffles, someone to help with decorations for events, someone to focus on PR in our community. Do any of these sound fun to you. Help lighten the load and step up if you can. You don't have to be an officer to help. Thank you.

***Respectfully Submitted: Cdr Paul Martines, JN***

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## EXECUTIVE OFFICER P/C Don Roman, AP

We are beginning to schedule Vessel Exams for 2026. Vessel Examiners, please note our first scheduled VSE Day.

**21 February - Vessel Safety Exams at Harbour Village, Ponce.**

**Like to look at boats? - become an Examiner.** Call Don Roman at 386-453-6456

We also need a few members to help with our VSE Days as facilitators and greeters. Contact Don Roman if you can help.

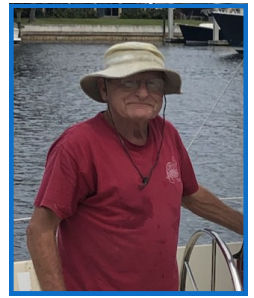
***Respectfully Submitted: P/C Don Roman, AP***



## Education Officers

**SEO P/C Will Benny, SN**

**ASEO P/C Don Roman, AP**



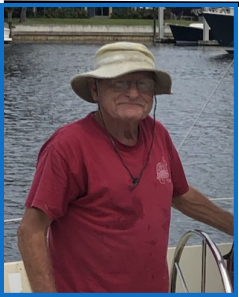
SEO Will Benny will be holding required Instructor recertification training soon. Completion of Marine Radar instruction has been delayed. It will be finished in the near future. Looking forward to another ABC3 course soon.

If you have any questions or suggestions for courses or seminars you'd like to take, please let me know. Don Roman, andanteroman@mac.com, ph 386-453-6456.

***Respectfully Submitted: ASEO P/C Don Roman, AP***

## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

**P/C Don Roman, AP**



Our squadron and our District are busy. 9 February begins the National Conference in Myrtle Beach. From Daytona Squadron, Cmdr Paul Martines, P/D/C Jeff Wise, P/D/C Tim Henke, and P/D/C Ron Radford plan on attending along with other District 23 reps as well. They'll report back at our Dinner meeting Thursday, 19 Feb'.26

9 February - McKenna's Fundraiser, followed by Executive Committee meeting

19 February - Our Squadron Dinner at Red Lobster: 6:15pm

21 February - Vessel Safety Exams at Harbour Village, Ponce.

23 February - D23 Winter Council will be held via Zoom on Computer.

Our Look Ahead: **HOLY COWS (Change of Watch(es))** We have some **BIG EVENTS** to Have Fun!

13-14 Mar D23 COW at: Hilton Garden INN, Lake Mary, Fl. To receive this negotiated booking rate, we must register by 10 Feb. Cost is \$142.50 per night if you register by then via D23 which saves you tax. Regular room rate is \$180 per night. Friday night looks like fun with dinner at St Johns River Seafood and Music Bingo and Dance once back at the hotel. District meetings on Saturday and Dinner/Dance Saturday evening as well as the COW. Please attend if you can. Registration form is on p. 8.

22 Mar: OUR COW which will be held at Halifax River Yacht Club. A great location, we'll meet from 1 to 4pm that Sunday afternoon. This a big event for us which happens once every two years and sets the leadership for our Club. Stay tuned for details. Rain or shine, HRYC is a great venue, and it'll be fun. Please plan on attending! We'll need some help with decorations, etc. (This will take the place of our regular monthly meeting.) Lastly, please consider serving on our squadron bridge. We will be canvassing the membership to help inject our bridge with new blood.

***Respectfully Submitted: P/C Don Roman, AP***



**Treasurer**  
**Lt/C Luc Labreche**

This is a friendly reminder to please submit your current dues at your earliest convenience. You can do so on the USPS National Website. Go to [usps.org](https://usps.org) and click log in dropdown. Go to membership portal. You sign in with your membership number (E\_\_\_\_\_). You can then edit any personal information as well as pay your dues.

Additionally, we have completed and submitted our annual Sunbiz Annual Report filing requirements for the year. Our account is current and stable.

We also wanted to let you know that we are now able to accept **Venmo and Zelle** as payment options for any club-related payments, in addition to our existing methods. If you have any questions or need further information, please don't hesitate to reach out. Thank you, and we appreciate your continued support.

If you would like your name to appear on the Beachcomber Squadron Sponsor page for the 2026 publishing year, give a \$20 donation to Luc Labreche. Checks should be made to ABC Daytona Beach.

***Respectfully Submitted: L/C Luc Labreche***



**Secretary**  
**D/L/C Sharon Neitzey**

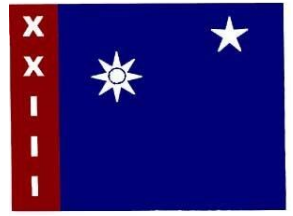
Please contact me ([sneitzey@aol.com](mailto:sneitzey@aol.com) or 386-290-1243) with any corrections or questions regarding the current minutes or Beachcomber Newsletter. Also, let me know if you have photos or news that you feel should be included in our Beachcomber. Please send photos to Christine Zahornacky at [gandczee@gmail.com](mailto:gandczee@gmail.com). We will need all information and photos for the March edition of the Beachcomber by February 25.

***Respectfully Submitted: D/L/C Sharon Neitzey***



## DISTRICT 23 NEWS

*D/L/C Sharon Neitzey, D23 Admin Officer*



There are several important District 23 events coming in the next few months. Our District 23 Commander, Mark Adams, has scheduled a D23 Winter Council Meeting for Squadron Commanders, District Bridge and Committee Chairpersons, and any other D23 members who wish to attend VIA ZOOM on Monday, February 23 at 7 p.m. Information will be sent out as soon as Sign On information is finalized. We are also planning another great District 23 Picnic on April 25 at Herschel King Park, Flagler County, a great venue Thank you to Paul Martines, who finalized the reservation for that.

The most important news for now is that we have our District 23 Spring Conference coming up at the Hilton Garden Inn in Lake Mary on March 13 and 14. We have some great activities planned for the weekend. [Register Now to get our booking discount \\$142.50 per night. Regular price is \\$180 plus taxes!](#) INFO/REGISTRATION FLYER IS ON P 8.

District 23 Nominating Committee is looking for some new District 23 Bridge Officers and other committee members. They especially need a Secretary and an Executive Officer. Let Jeff Wise or D23 Commander Mark Adams know if you would be willing to serve our district.

At the National level, our USPS National Annual Meeting will be held in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina from February 9 through 15, 2026. You can find that information on the National website at [www.USPS.org](http://www.USPS.org). Call Paul Martines if you want more information.

Several of our local members are going and a few will receive Lifetime Membership status in the United States Power Squadron at the event. Watch next month's Beachcomber to celebrate those members.

***Respectfully Submitted: D/Lt/C Sharon Neitzey, D23 Admin Officer***



Register by February 10!



March 13 & 14, 2026

D23 CHANGE OF WATCH

HILTON GARDEN INN

705 Currency Circle

LAKE MARY, FL

ALL ROOMS \$142.50/NIGHT (\$139/NIGHT + COUNTY FEE OF \$3.50)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please make selections and note numbers x costs for total costs.

Room Circle (K) or (Qu.) Circle Friday Saturday # \_\_\_\_\_ Nights x 142.50= \_\_\_\_\_

FRIDAY NIGHT Check in and head to St. John's River Seafood on the St. John's to eat. Return to hotel for a Crazy Music Bingo Party \*Snacks free \*(Cash Bar)

SATURDAY BREAKFAST (free to Friday hotel guests) Others # \_\_\_\_\_ x \$16 = \_\_\_\_\_

N CLUB, FOLLOWED BY CONFERENCE MEETINGS, SPEAKERS. ETC.

LUNCH ON- SITE \$22 (INCLUDES TAX AND GRATUITY) # \_\_\_\_\_ x \$22= \_\_\_\_\_

FINISH MEETINGS, SPEAKERS BREAK

CHANGE OF WATCH and SWEARING IN

DINNER \$45 (INCLUDES TAX AND GRATUITY), AND DANCE # \_\_\_\_\_ x \$45= \_\_\_\_\_

SUNDAY BREAKFAST (free to Saturday hotel guests) Others # \_\_\_\_\_ x \$16 = \_\_\_\_\_

**Total of all expenses (DUE FEBRUARY 10) \_\_\_\_\_**

**Please send check (made to USPS D23) with registration to Sharon Neitzey,  
724 Central Park Blvd., Port Orange, FL 32127**

Registering through D23 saves you FL sales and tourist taxes.

**REGISTER TODAY!**

# HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

*Lee Adamitz*

*Chris Conomos*

*William Myers*

*Kimberly Schmidt*



*Happy birthday to you.*

*Happy birthday to you.*

*Happy birthday dear squadron members.*

*Happy birthday to YOU!!!*

## Lucky Star



### Lucky Star Winner

**OUR LUCKY STAR DRAWING  
ROLLS OVER TO \$200 THIS MONTH.  
IT WILL BE DRAWN AT OUR FEBRUARY DINNER.  
REMEMBER, YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN.  
DON'T MISS OUT!**

# MEMBER BENEFITS

Your membership is your ticket to savings.

## SAVE WITH OUR PARTNERS

- ✓ Members Only Boat Insurance
- ✓ Members Only Boating Courses
- ✓ Boat Parts and Accessories
- ✓ Electronic Flares
- ✓ Boat Financing
- ✓ Home Mortgages
- ✓ 24/7 Boat Monitoring
- ✓ On-Water Towing
- ✓ Rental Cars
- ✓ Prescription Discounts
- ✓ Pet Insurance

*and much much more!*



For more information, visit our website

[AmericasBoatingClub.org/Benefits](https://AmericasBoatingClub.org/Benefits)





Our Daytona Beach Sail and Power Squadron America's Boating Club partners with the USCG Auxiliary in providing FREE Courtesy Vessel Safety Checks for those who wish to ensure that their boat meets USCG (and State) requirements.

Our examiners are trained and ready to perform these valuable exams for the boat owner's benefit. Unlike the FL Sheriff, FWC, or USCG that conduct law enforcement boardings, our Vessel Safety Checks are simply intended to help you meet USCG requirements.

The Decals indicate to all that you are a concerned, conscientious boater who ensures your boat is ready, safe, with required equipment.

To schedule a Vessel Safety Check, you can contact one of our Vessel Examiners below:

Will Benny	386-265-5180	New Smyrna Beach/Edgewater
Tim Henke	352-483-6000	Lake Marion/Seminole Co
Paul Martines	386-265-5180	Daytona Beach/Holly Hill
Tom Leitzel	704-591-6558	New Smyrna Beach/Port Orange
Ron Radford	515-236-8206	Palm Coast/Flagler
Don Roman	386-453-6456	Ormond Beach/Daytona Beach
Jeff Wise	386-299-4536	Daytona Beach/Port Orange

We will meet you at your home, boat ramp, boat storage, or a parking lot convenient for you. Call and arrange your VSC: 386-453-6456 or any of the above numbers.

Display of numbers    Registration/Documentation    Personal Flotation Devices (PFD)  
 Backfire Flame Control    Pollution Placard    Navigation Rules    Fire Extinguishers  
 Sound Producing Device    MAR POL Trash Placards    Navigation Lights    Ventilation  
 Visual Distress Signals (VDS)    Engine Cutoff Switch (ECS)    Overall Condition  
 Trash Management Plan.    Note: requirements vary by Boat's Class

[WWW.ABCDB.CLUB](http://WWW.ABCDB.CLUB)

America's Boating Club Daytona Beach



Website:  SCAN ME	abccdaytonabeach@gmail.com  SCAN ME	Facebook  FACEBOOK
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Do you know your benefits as a member of  
America's Boating Club?

Go to the National Website to find out!

The link is [https://www.usps.org/  
departments/14000/14500-member-benefits](https://www.usps.org/departments/14000/14500-member-benefits)

\*You will need your membership number (on your membership card) to Log In.

**NEWLY ADDED BENEFITS**

**Ditch Navigation | AI-Powered Navigation App**  
(Use promo code **BOAT2025** to activate your FREE 1-year  
subscription)



*Your certificate # is your key to unlocking great savings. New benefits are added  
frequently so be sure to check back often!*

<https://ditchnavigation.com/americasboatingclub>





## SPONSORS

Jeff & Cathy Wise

Atlantic Marine, Pt. Orange

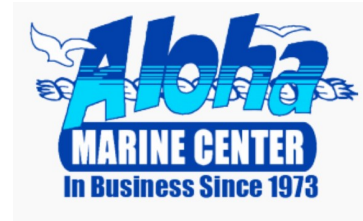
Aaron Kilman Jewelers

Halifax Veterinary Clinic

Frank & Sharon Neitzey

Aloha Marine, Holly Hill

McKenna's, Pt. Orange



We are always looking for new sponsors for our worthy organization. It is time to renew. Squadron Members who wish to appear on our Sponsor Page should give your \$20 donation to our treasurer, Luc LaBreche. Thank you.

## A NOTE TO OUR READERS...

As the editors of this newsletter,  
we welcome your input on articles in the newsletter  
or suggestions for materials that you would like to see  
included in future issues.

This newsletter is one of the primary tools used by the squadron to  
communicate with its members.

Please review the articles and meeting flyers included and join  
us for classes and events announced.

Each of us can play an important role in the success of our squadron.  
Please feel free to contact us or e-mail us.

Sharon Neitzey and Christine Zahornacky

[sneitzey@aol.com](mailto:sneitzey@aol.com)    [gandczee@gmail.com](mailto:gandczee@gmail.com)

*Please submit any information or photos for the March*

*Publication to us by **February 25.***

*Send info to Sharon Neitzey and photos to Christine Zahornacky.*

*\*\*\*Members please note that .pdf files submitted to the editors are  
not grammatically correctable.*

*However, Microsoft Word and Publisher files are correctable.\*\*\**

*Photos should be in .jpeg format.*

# Daytona Beach, America Boating Club

*Christmas Lunch, December 2025*





Thank you to Christine Zahornacky for providing pictures of our festivities.



**TENTATIVE CALENDAR FOR 2026**

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**25: D23 Picnic at Herschel King Park, Flagler**

**Come join us for our next activity. Call Don Roman to RSVP. (386) 453-6456 to RSVP.**

**Website:**



**SCAN ME**

**abcdaytonabeach@gmail.com**



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**Facebook**



**FACEBOOK**