

CITIZENS FOR FLORIDA'S WATERWAYS

Volume 20 - Issue 6

Nov/Dec 2013

Citizens For Florida's Waterways promotes the need for responsible use of Florida's waterways. Our primary objective is to encourage coexistance among recreational and commercial boaters, the marine industry, propery owners and the environment. Citizens For Florida's Waterways advocates education in the safe and considerate use of watercraft with respect for our marine environment and conservation.

We ARE Citizens for Florida's Waterways

What waterway is more important to our membership than the quality of our own Indian/Banana River Estuary/Lagoon ecosystem? For that reason, I am proposing that we put our membership and resources to work in helping to identify and mitigate the causal sources of lagoon quality decline and help turn the corner toward a path to recovery and preservation.

You have read my expository articles (see inside for another in the series) asking the question that no one wants to hear or answer – Should the manatee be identified as one of the causal sources of the decline? The numbers I've shown you are staggering, yet it is clearly a minority opinion and we have had limited success in even getting the validity of the question in the analysis.

Clearly there are unanswered questions that become underlying assumptions for the results. But, these underlying assumptions can be easily identified and should be the basis for studies to provide answers that we must demand be performed.

What is the average annual production (by weight) of an acre of estuary bottom? I assumed that an accurate estimate for seagrassproductionis20,000 pounds peracre. We know range of depths, water clarity and and bottom characteristics required to actually produce seagrass. But for those seagrass bearing acres,

What is a good value for average consumption for the average animal in a given population? I assumed that a manatee consumes between 50 and 150 lbs of seagrass per day.

What percentage of manatee seagrass intake actually results in excrement? I assumed that segrass mass ingested equaled excrement mass out.

What is the true chemical decomposition of manatee fecal material? I assumed that manatee excrement was an abundant source of seagrass nutrients.

What is the chemical true composition of the muck at the bottom of our lagoon, tributaries and especially our residential The USGS has conducted chemical analysis of core samples taken from the bottoms of other waterways in peril. (which are beginning to seem like an open manatee sewage system)

Over the next few months, I will be seeking answers to these questions and looking for ways to invest our manpower and resources to Save Our Lagoon. If you have constructive ideas, valuable points of contact or hear of activities and actions supporting the lagoon system – PLEASE share them with us. We can send notification to the entire membership if that is appropriate. As we determine participatory activities to help the lagoon, PLEASE participate. IT IS OUR LAGOON. ❖

CFFW Officers

President

Kelly Haugh 321-449-0827

Vice President

Peggy Wehrman pwerhman@cffw.org

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Kelly Haugh 321-449-0827

Treasurer

Karen Dignan kdignan@cffw.org



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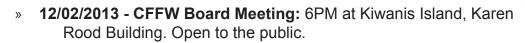
Government Liason

Steven Webster swebster@cffw.org



Please Mark Your Calendars!

Please call Kelly Haugh at 321-449-0827 for more information.



- » 12/7/2013 CFFW Holiday Social/Cape Canaveral Christmas Boat Parade: 5PM at Baja Tavern & Eats at the Port . Parade starts at 6PM. We have 30 seats reserved for dinner, so call Kally Haugh at 321-449-0827 ASAP to reserve your spot!
- » 12/14/2013 Cocoa Beach Christmas Boat Parade: Captain's meeting to be held on 12/4/2013 at 7PM in the Cocoa Beach Country Club.
- » 12/21/2013 Merritt Island Christmas Boat Parade: Captain's meeting to be held on 12/16/2013 at 6PM in the Karen Rood Community Building on Kiwanis Island (next to the boat ramp).
- » 12/21/2013 Annual Banana River Sale & Power Squadron/Satellite Beach Christmas Boat Parade: 6PM at the north end of the Grand Canal in Satellite Beach. ❖

Newsletter Delivery Mode

E-Newsletters Now Available

CFFW is offering all members the option to receive all future newsletters by email instead of a hard copy by mail. The Board of Directors have reviewed the expense logs for the past few years to determine where we could save money and this is the biggest expense we have.

If you wish to save your club money on printing and postage, please reply to info@cffw.org and we will add you to the email list for your newsletters! You will receive an email stating your E-Newsletter is ready for viewing. If at any time you wish to receive the hardcopy again, just send us a note at the same email and you will again receive the hardcopy.

You can view the same exact version online at CFFW.org and click on "newsletters" tab and the issue you would like to view. \$\ddots\$

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Citizens For Florida's Waterways Boat Safe Reimbursement Program

CFFW promotes the need for responsible use of Florida waterways. Our primary objective is to encourage coexistence among recreational and commercial boaters, the marine industry, property owners, and the environment. CFFW advocates education in the safe and considerate use of watercraft with respect for our marine environment and conservation.

If you would like to receive reimbursement for the class fees charged by the Coast Guard Auxiliary or the Cocoa Beach Power Squadron, you can attend a CFFW meeting, present your certificate of completion, and receive your reimbursement.

CFFW funds are limited, and we do have a finite amount of money in our scholarship fund, so it is on a first come, first served basis, and as noted above this is for the Basic Safe Boating class only.

You can visit our website at <u>www.cffw.org</u> or <u>www.savefamilyboating.com</u> for the location of our events and meetings.

You may also contact Kelly Haugh CFFW President at 321-449-0827 for more information.

Enjoy safe boating! ❖

Cocoa Beach Sail and Power Squadron Safe Boating Courses

The Cocoa Beach Sail and Power Squadron Education Officer has graciously invited all of our members to participate in their boating education classes and pay only the member fee!

To enroll, refer to the web site www.cbsps.org where they post the upcoming classes. Mention that you are a CFFW member and the Education Officer will reply via email and then ask you to confirm you are a CFFW member the first night of classes. You can confirm this with your most current copy of the newsletter, which has your Name, address and renewal date on the back page.

This is a great opportunity for education in safe boating if you have not had the chance to participate in any safe boating classes!

Stay safe and see you on the water! *





When Does Your Membership Expire?
(See Back Cover)

NEW CFFW Board of Directors for 2014

There's a new Sheriff in town!

The CFFW Annual Meeting followed by the CFFW Annual Board Meeting took place last month and the results are in!

Your new board consists of Bob Atkins as President, Kelly Haugh as Vice President, Peggy Wehrman as Secretary, and Karen Dignan as Treasurer.

Directors are: Sandy Reynolds, Doug Jaren, and Gary Haugh.

Steven Webster continues as Government Liaison. .

Battery Type Information *Courtesy of Seaworthy Magazine*

Do you know the difference between the various rechargeable batteries: Nickel-Cadmium (NiCad), Nickel-Metal Hydride (NiMH), and Lithium Ion (Li-Ion) batteries? Do you care? You should; it could make the difference between, say, a handheld VHF or cell phone that works as advertised and one that goes dead too quickly.

A NiCad battery, which is the type used with most handheld VHF radios, has "memory", which means it should not be subject to shallow discharge. If you tend to use your handheld briefly and then top off the charge before the battery is completely drained, it will remember that level of discharge as its baseline. For example, if your battery is supposed to last for five hours and is recharged routinely after it is used one hour, it will eventually need recharging after it is used only one hour. If you diligently top off your handheld VHF NiCad every week, just to be safe, you'll be wondering why the "!@#\$%" thing goes dead so quickly. So much for your good intentions.

The other two battery types, Lithium and Nickel-Metal Hydride, don't suffer from the memory effect so they can be used for ten minutes or ten hours. They also - surprise - cost more. However, you get what you pay for - a handheld VHF with a Lithium battery has a higher concentration of energy and a lower discharge rate than a comparable radio with a NiCad battery.

To end on a note of optimism, if you have a NiCad that has already developed short term memory, you can bring it back, at least most of the way back, by waiting until it is completely dead before recharging. Gradually the length of time between recharging will lengthen.

In these times of searches for alternate energy sources, there are frequent developments in the field of batteries. Always stay tuned. ••

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Christmas Boat Parade Schedule & Contact Information

» Port Canaveral Christmas Boat Parade December 7th, 2013 at 6pm

1st Prize is \$500.00. For more information go to: www.visitportcanaveral.com or call Shawn 321-403-5769.

» Cocoa Beach Boat Parade Sponsored by the Cocoa Beach Rotary Club December 14th, 2013 at 6pm

Starting at Marker 101 thru the Cocoa Beach Canals
Captain's Meeting December 4, 2013 at the Cocoa Beach Country Club, 7 pm
For more information call Ollie at 321-258-0522 or Walt Blaser at 321-223-0823

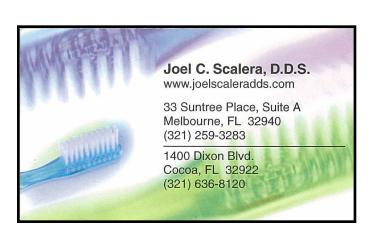
» Merritt Island Christmas Boat Parade December 21st, 2013 at 6pm

Captain's Meeting December 16, 2013, at Kiwanis Island, Karen Rood Bldg. 6 pm. Starting at Kiwanis Basin and continuing thru many Sykes Creek Canals. There will maps for the route and all pertinent information will be available at the meeting. There are prizes for different categories of decorations and you must be registered to be entered in the judging. You do not have to participate in the judging if you do not wish to. For more info contact Kim Johnson at 453-5149 or 720-9147. Or Kenny Buback at 454-9024 or 427-7208.

» Annual Banana River Sail & Power Squadron and Satellite Beach Christmas Boat Parade

December 21st, 2013 at 6pm

The parade will start, rain or shine at the north end of the Grand Canal in Satellite Beach and will go south, following the Satellite Marine Police Boat and the BRSPS Santa Claus Boat. The parade will circle clockwise around Lake Shepherd and then south as far as Mather's Bridge. Participants are welcome to take the entire route. All parade communications will be on VHS Channel 71. ❖



WEAR IT!



MODERNIZING NAUTICAL CHART DISTRIBUTION

Major changes for boaters

Major changes are coming for boaters who purchase paper nautical charts of U.S. coasts and the Great Lakes. Effective April 13, 2014, the federal government will no longer print the traditional lithographic nautical charts. NOAA continues to provide the nation's nautical charts in a variety of forms — and we will start to provide full-size nautical chart PDF (Portable Document Format) files on a trial basis. We continue to support entrepreneurs who use NOAA nautical charts in developing new navigation products and services.

NDAA PDF charte

FREE, ON A nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/pdfcharts

NOAA will and a

NOAA will make printable PDFs of all charts available for free, on a trial basis, from October 22, 2013 to Jan 22, 2014. These PDFs will be up-to-date for the date it is downloaded. Anyone can get the PDF nautical charts printed at the printer of their choice.

Official NOAA Print-on-Demand nautical charts

nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/pod/POD.htm

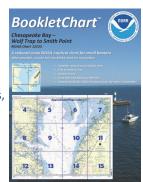
Millions of boaters are increasingly relying on the ease of purchasing "Print-on-Demand" (POD) charts that are updated to the date of printing. POD charts are tolerant of water and UV damage and stand up to repeated folding, writing, and erasing.

Certified NOAA POD charts meet carriage requirements for vessels required to carry marine charts under 33 CFR 164.01 and 33 CFR 164.33.

Booklet Charts

Nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/staff/ Bookletchart.htm

NOAA provides PDFs of BookletCharts, which are nautical charts in booklet form, downloadable for printing from home computers. Convenient and free!



"Our concern is making sure that boaters, fishing vessels, and commercial mariners all have the most accurate, up to date nautical chart that is available," explains Cmdr. Shep Smith, chief of NOAA's Coast Survey Marine Chart Division. "Advancements in digital and electronic technologies now put more accurate charts at the mariners' fingertips faster, and with less expense, than was possible years ago."

Electronic navigational charts

nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/mcd/enc/index.htm

The NOAA ENC® is produced from a vector database of features. It supports real-time navigation as well as collision and grounding avoidance. ENCs are used by many computer navigation programs and mobile apps, as well as ECDIS. They are updated with weekly Notice to Mariners corrections and are available for free download from the Coast Survey website.

Raster navigational charts

nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/mcd/raster/index.htm

The NOAA RNC® is a geo-referenced digital image of the traditional paper chart, used in a variety of electronic charting systems. RNCs are updated with weekly Notice to Mariners corrections and are available for free download from the Coast Survey website.

IS YOUR CHART INACCURATE? Report discrepancies

NOAA's Office of Coast Survey is the nation's chartmaker, responsible for charting over 3.5 million square nautical miles of U.S. coastal waters and the Great Lakes. Using four NOAA ships (three equipped with small boats for near shore work), six 28-foot survey boats, a 57-foot research vessel, and private contractors, Coast Survey acquires hydrographic data to update the nation's nautical charts. But it isn't enough to keep up with constantly changing seafloors and coasts. We need your help.

Report chart discrepancies.

nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/discrepancy, or call 888-990-6622

nauticalcharts.noaa.gov

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Illicit Discharge of Grass Clippings

Do you know that is it illegal to "blow" yard clippings into the street?

Well, it is, and it is called an "Illicit Discharge". This law addresses the issue of individuals or businesses using "Blowers" to blow grass clippings and/or trash into the streets and gutters.

Why, you ask? Think about where all the clippings and trash end up when it rains. The rain comes down, washing all of the debris into the storm drains and from there, a lot of it ends up in the river.

I am not saying this is THE cause of our IRL issues, but I am saying, this is 1 of many issues that we can do something to change. With a little education of the issue and a change in our behavior, 1 person at a time, we can make a difference.

If you have a lawn service for your home or business, please pay attention to how they use their blowers. Do they blow clippings into the yard, or do they blow into the street.

If it is the latter, you can politely inform them of your concern for our IRL and the impact that all of the unnecessary load of yard waste and trash places on this very delicate system.

If you see someone blowing into the street, take a picture of them in the process and if it is a business, take a picture of the vehicle with the company name on it. You can send the info to the county offices and they will contact the offender and educate them on the issue.

The number to call for more information is 321-633-2014, Brevard County Natural Resources, Storm Water Management Office.

It is our responsibility as citizens of Brevard County to do as much as possible to reverse our negative impact on this valuable resource, 1 person at a time! .

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27 Tips To Sell Fast & For Top Dollar
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Where Does the Manatee Fit in the Current Lagoon Ecosystem Decline?

In the absence of a smoking gun cause-effect of the ailing lagoon health, among the scientific community, one must continue to ask and answer any and all reasonable questions about cause-effect.

What are the most worrisome elements of the current lagoon crisis?

Loss of Seagrass

Increase of Muck

Increase of Algae

What we are searching for are contributory causes and what can we do to fix them.

This is not an attempt to blame lagoon health on the manatee. It is an attempt to motivate the scientific community to investigate the possibility that the manatee may be adversely impacting the system. The problem here is that there are questions about the effect of an ever-increasing number of manatee that deserve solid analytic answers. The problem is still one of man's devise. We were so worried about the survival of this species that we waived our own good environmental policy and mandated artificial warm water outflows from our power plants - forever changing the natural migratory habits of the manatee.

Recently, I discovered that FPL conducted State sponsored manatee counts in Brevard County from October 1012 to March 2013. They did not count the federal refuge in the banana river north of SR 528, where there are expected significant numbers. On March 15 the count was 1719. Brevard County now has a larger population of manatee than any historical records can establish. What's more, this is the number of animals

that spent the winter here, with over 900 crowded into the warm water outflows at Port St John. These animals would have historically moved farther south for the winter.

Here are some questions that deserve scientific analysis and discovery.

If 1700 mantatee eat 50-150 lbs of seagrass per day

If an acre of lagoon bottom suitable of for seagrass growth is capable of producing 20 tons of seagrass per year

... (Continued on Page 9)

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Robin G Turner, Licensed Real Estate Broker

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Where Does the Manatee Fit in the Current Lagoon Ecosystem Decline?

(continued from Page 8)

If an animal with no front teeth can only pull - not bite - grass

Does this mean that we can expect between 800 and 2300 Acres of seagrass to be destroyed by manatees each year - 2400 to 6900 acres over the last three years?

This would mean that nearly 1/4 of the reported seagrass loss over the last 3 years could be attributed to manatee consumption.

How much of the 15,000 to 45,000 Tons of seagrass consumed each year results in solid waste?

What is the chemical composition of the waste?

If we conservatively assume that 50% of this consumption results in nutrients (it is manure), then over the same three year period, between 22,000 and 66,000 Tons of nutrients have been let free into the system.

Now these numbers may seem insignificant to those who can't see past the other manmade causes for laogoon health - septic seepage and runoff. But the efforts over the last several years have significantly reduced runoff, treated water is no longer discharged into the lagoon, the citrus groves and associated runoff have long dwindled, and as for septic tanks - another good set of questions.

The April1 2011 population estimate for Brevard was around 550,000. The potential loss of seagrass each year is the equivalent of asking each man, woman and child in Brevard to harvest between 50 and 150 lbs of seagrass and take it home every year - and even conservatively estimating nutrient content in the waste, every man, woman and child would need to return to the lagoon every year with a 15 to 50 lb bag of fertilizer and pour it in.

Does that get your attention? So let the questions be asked and answered. \$\ddots\$

Orion Update

We have marked a major milestone accomplishment for the Orion crew module here at KSC. On Saturday afternoon, October 26, the vehicle was officially powered up in flight configuration. Orion came to life for the first time. With this achievement, we kick off the final year of testing and preparation for Orion's first mission, Exploration Flight Test 1 (EFT-1). EFT-1 is the first planned, uncrewed test flight of the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle set to launch atop a Delta IV Heavy from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. This mission will mark the next step in NASA's commitment to human space flight beyond low Earth orbit and the continued development of its next-generation spacecraft.

... (Continued on Page 10)

"Catch A Memory" Radio Show

The radio show will again be an hour long on WMEL 1300-AM, Saturday mornings at 7:35AM -9:30AM. The program will be covering the fishing action on Florida's East Coast. Anglers can tune in to hear Captain Jim Ross and his cohosts provide the latest fishing and new product information. .

"Chevy Florida Insider Fishing **Report" Television Show**

Captain Jim Ross has joined a host of other top professional guides across the State of Florida on a new television show called the "Chevy Florida Insider Fishing Report." The TV show is on the SunSports network on Thursday evenings from 5:00PM to 6:30PM (times vary, check your local TV guide). Reporting expert, Captain Jim Ross will bring you an up-to-date fishing report from our offshore and inshore local waters.

Captain Jim Ross also provides daily reports Sunday through Wednesday on the TV shows website: www.floridainsiderfishingreport.com

If you would like to contact Captain Jim Ross, his phone number is 321-636-3728 and his web-site is: www.finelinefishingcharters.com. .



CFFW members are entitled to a full Membership in BoatUS for only \$15 - that's 50% offthe regular \$30 annual dues!



BoatUS and BoatUS ANGLER Member benefits include Member Rewards at West Marine stores, discounts at marinas nationwide on fuel, repairs, and overnight slips, on-the-water Towing Services, highly-respected Marine Insurance, a subscription to BoatUS Magazine or BoatUS ANGLER.

Orion Update (continued from Page 9)

Set for fall 2014, Orion's first mission will be a two-orbit, four-hour flight.

spacecraft will fly more than 3,600 miles above the Earth—farther than any vehicle built for humans has been in more than 40 vears. Orion will then return to Earth at a speed of almost 20,000 mph and endure temperatures of 4,000 degrees before splashdown in the Pacific Ocean. EFT-1 will provide engineers with critical data about Orion's heat shield, flight systems, and capabilities to validate designs of the spacecraft before crewed flights. This mission design is essentially equivalent to that of the Apollo 4 mission of 1967, which validated the Apollo flight control system and heat shield at reentry conditions.

Join us at CFFW as Brevard County congratulates the Orion team in celebrating this achievement as we kick off the one-year EFT-1 launch countdown. We wouldn't be where we are without everyone's hard work and drive. We are making progress toward our future, and we will go farther into space than we have ever ventured before.

You can visit the Orion Web site for all the latest news at www.nasa.gov/Orion, like Orion on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ NASAOrion, and follow Orion on Twitter or Google+ at www.twitter.com/NASA Orion or plus.google.com/+NASAOrion. *



Ask A Friend To Join CFFW

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CFFW Member Recognition

New Members

Matt Nye, Melbourne

Diamond Level (\$100 per year)

Bob & Sherry Atkins
Robert Behm
Ron & Lois Dixon
Don & Linda Ewers
Col. & Mrs. J.C. Farley
Ollie & Sherry Follweiler
Charles & Susan Frazier
Jeff Haggard & Anita Bromberg
Jeff & Anita Haggard
Alston & Kelli Hammons
Keith & Tamasine Houston
Lonnie & Carla Hughes
Scott & Sue Kee
Troy & Genese Launay

David & Irene Nelson Don Nesbitt

Tony & Debby Pappas Ron & Karen Presley Richard & Patricia Rehm

Jim Ross\Fineline Fishing Charters Scorpion's Port Canaveral Marine

Sea Tow Port Canaveral

Jamie Seymour/New England Mfg. Co.

Wayne Stratford Robin & KathyTurner Willie & Peggy Wehrman Bill & Eileen Wetzel Robert Wille Gerd Zeiler

Gold Level (\$50 per year):

Troy & Lisa Lotane

Dr, & Mrs. Barry R. Barnhart Skip & Ruth Bateman Gregory & Patricia Bean **Howard Bernbaum** Rick & Merry Cleveland David DeSouza\D&D Marine at the Port. Inc. Glenn & Sherry DeJong Don & Annette Doerr Clark & Becky Fischer **Edward French** Dan & Terri Friedlander Joe & Rita Fust Gus & Bobbie Gostel Charle & Myrl Gunter Terry & Patricia Hammond Henry & Dolores Happel Gary & Kelly Haugh

Bruce & Carol Hess
Frank Jones
Doug Jaren
John & Diane Kendrick
Chyung M. Kim, MD
Anthony Sidor
Christine Smith

Joseph & Faith Kroto Christine Smith
George Legters Richard Sproc
Nicholas F. Mancini Fred Stasio

Shawn McCoy Sam & Anne Thorpe
Dentis McDaniel Ted & Linda Trainor

Gordon & Anita Millar Bob & Cookie Tubielewicz

David & Alicia Musalo Robert Veschi

Cloud & Frances Pawtowski Thumper & Iva Volkmer

John & Elizabeth Picardi Steven Webster

Ron & Donna Pritchard Westland Marina/Titusville

Paul & Francesca Ragusa Jim & Pam Urick

Rick Rescott Jess H. Yates, DMD

Chuck Reed

Business Recognition Diamond Level

MarineMax of Cocoa

This business supports
Citizens For Florida's Waterways
by donating a CFFW membership with
each boat purchased from their store.

Mandatory Equipment

For Your Boat:

A CFFW Family Membership!

If you own a boat or live by the water, you can't afford not to join Citizens For Florida's Waterways!

\$25	Silve	r Family	\Box	\$100	Diamon	d Family
\$50	Gold	Family		\$500	Platinun	n Family
Don	ation	/\$	١			

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CFFW is a 501(c)4 organization. Donations and <u>membership dues are not tax-deductable.</u>



Citizens For Florida's Waterways

Post Office Box 541712 Merritt Island, FL 32954-1712 **PAID** PERMIT NO. 244 COCOA FL

PRSRT STD

U S POSTAGE

If you're not a member... please join.

Your membership dues provide the financial support needed to save family boating from the million-dollar enviro-businesses.

Please join online at cffw.org or by mailing the enclosed membership form.

When Does Your Membership Expire?



- **12/02/2013 CFFW Board Meeting:** 6PM at Kiwanis Island.
- » 12/7/2013 CFFW Holiday Social/Cape Canaveral Christmas Boat Parade: 5PM at Baja Tavern & Eats at the Port. Parade starts at 6PM.
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- 12/21/2013 Merritt Island Christmas Boat Parade: Captain's meeting to be held on 12/16/2013 at 6PM. MORE INSIDE!



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