



For Immediate Release: January 2, 2018

47th Annual St. Lucie River Blessing of the Fleet and Marine Parade

The date of the 47th Annual St. Lucie River Blessing of the Fleet and Marine Parade has been announced by its Board of Directors for Saturday, February 10, 2018. This traditional and historical event had its beginning with early fisherman asking their clergy to bless their ships, crew and catch. The event now mirrors similar events held worldwide with our local Blessing Parade started in 1941. The event not only includes local commercial fishermen, but yacht clubs, marinas, yacht brokers, sailing clubs, U.S. Power Squadron, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and independent owners – sail or power. All are welcome!

In early years, we were fortunate to have the endorsement of the Evinrude family with Mr. and Mrs. (Frances Langford) Evinrude volunteering their personal yacht, Chanticleer, for the event. They also contributed a large trophy currently held by the host yacht club in their memory. This year, we are grateful to MarineMax Stuart for the donation of a review boat for the clergy and their guests.

The parade will again be held in the north fork of the St. Lucie River beginning at 12:30pm. After forming in the northern area, according to prior assigned buoy markers, all boats will proceed south along the western bank to the anchored reviewing boat. For additional information about member clubs and parade details, please see our website: www.theblessingofthefleet.com

The Blessing of the Fleet is a Florida incorporated, volunteer organization supported by the dues of its' member yacht clubs. Each year additional donations and sponsorships are solicited for the benefit of the Rivers Coalition goals to promote a safe, healthy and ecologically balanced St. Lucie River estuary. Any proceeds are donated to the River Kidz Foundation. For information about donations, sponsorships, or related publicity, please contact: Joel Sena, Windjammer Yacht Club at: senajoel357@gmail.com, 772-233-2419.

We thank our local community and look forward to their continued support!