



Christmas *Island Style*

P.O. Box 1216, Marco Island, FL 34146

November 16, 2017

Dear Friends and Neighbors....

After much consideration and review the Christmas Island Style Committee has elected to cancel this year's Christmas Boat Parade which was scheduled for December 9th in recognition of potential safety issues concerning the route. This decision was not made without serious consideration and discussions with both public safety personnel and professional mariners who have participated in the event year after year.

As a result of Hurricane Irma the mouth of Collier Creek which leads into Collier Bay and eventually into Smokehouse Bay and the Esplanade has some issues regarding safe passage during low-tide events and is compounded by the night passage through this area. Do not misunderstand this communication with you, Collier Creek is in fact open, but may present some issues to those not familiar with it, or of a larger draft vessels.. Larger boats however, similar to the Marco Princess and sailboats may have a difficult time traversing the channel, creating a problem with the flow of traffic and possibly blocking the return of vessels.

We have reviewed alternate routes and find none that would provide the general public with adequate viewing opportunities.

We hope you'll understand our desires to provide mariners with a 100% safe experience, as we have chosen to err on the side of safety.

Should you have any questions please don't hesitate to reach out to me personally.

Hope to see you at many of the other events around the island during the Christmas Season.

Warmest regards,

Steve "Stef" Stefanides

Steve "Stef" Stefanides / Chairman
Christmas Island Style
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