

## IT'S PEAK HURRICANE SEASON!

By Barret Bonden

Hurricane Ian turned me into a tropical storm tracker. As I write this Potential Tropical Cyclone Nine is heading our way. Instead of waiting for the local weatherman to tell me what might happen I log on to the internet and check three sites that the local weathermen source their reports from.

First up is <https://www.nhc.noaa.gov> where the best overviews of coming storms can be found. Their variety of images allow me to get a good picture of what may be coming our way and when it might get here.

Next up is a visit to <https://www.cyclocane.com> where I can get a good look at the various track lines from the different hurricane models. The current consensus track runs through the Big Bend area, but the outlier track closest to us runs through Sarasota.

Finally, a visit to <https://cera.coastalrisk.live> where details of potential storm surge are mapped in detail. Currently our area looks like we will see 3.5 to 4.5 surge, but areas in the river around the I75 bridge could see 4.5 to 5.5 feet.

In case you want to look to the past, visit NOAA Historical Hurricane Tracks <https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/news/historical-hurricanes/>. There you can look at more than 150 years of tracking data.

Stay safe during the storms, Barret Bonden

*Barret Bonden, a recurring character in the Patrick O'Brian seafaring novels, is the nom de plume for one of our many safe boating instructors.*

**CAPE CORAL SAIL & POWER SQUADRON, INC.**  
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## COMMANDER'S REPORT



Scott Steele Commander  
ABC Cape Coral Sail  
& Power Squadron

I'm hoping that everyone has logged in to the new iMIS portal. If not, please do. We are trying to sort out the problems with this new system and the only way we can check current membership is if folks have signed in. Unfortunately, most of our old data is inaccurate and we've had to do a lot of manual manipulation. It's also the only way you will know if your membership is expiring. National quit mailing renewals. Bottom line is that the transition has been a disaster. We've lost track of the hours that we've spent trying to keep things moving forward. Even if you don't plan to use the site on a frequent basis, please do the initial login. Carl has created a helpful guide for those who have trouble getting into the system. Don't hesitate to ask.

We had a really good September General meeting. Thanks to Tom and Brigitt DeMarzo for giving a nice presentation on the Florida loop. It was very informative and entertaining. We also had a good summary of all the activities that have been happening during the summer. All of our groups have been active, including Co-op Charting, VSC's, Weekenders and Weekdayers. You'll see more on these activities in the following pages of the Buoys. Our next General Meeting is November 14th.

Carl McGrath, Tom Dawson and I had the pleasure of attending the District 22 Commanders and Council meeting a couple weeks ago in Sarasota. I have to say it was the best District meeting that we've attended. It was a lively discussion, especially relative to iMIS. **If you think we have problems, you should see the issues that other squadrons are facing. They can't even send emails to all of their members because this functionality is gone.** Fortunately we are using gmail and have been able to manually update the mailing list. It's not perfect, but it's better than nothing. Another outcome was that District leadership is starting to listen and react to our concerns.

The 2025 fall conference will be one day versus two and it will be conducted at our Cape Coral squadron building. This will save time and money for all squadrons. We will continue to look at streamlining and rotating the locations for future meetings and events. This should make it better for all members, not just the officers. Our 2024 Fall District Conference is on October 4th and 5th in Punta Gorda. Seminars and the agenda are in the final stages of development and fine tuning. We are hoping to get a Friday session on how to work with iMIS. That's dependent on what's actually working at the time. All members are welcome and invited to attend these district meeting.



We are in a transition period for our Farmer's Market. Jim and Joette Humphrey have done a great job in coordinating and staffing this booth. We've seen the positive results from their commitment and enthusiasm. We gained many ABC students, members and knowledgeable boaters from their efforts. We also need to recognize the many members who have helped out in the booth on Saturdays. It's a great team effort. Unfortunately, Jim and Joette have some things coming up and need to step away from the Farmer's Market. We need to find a new coordinator(s) to step up and lead this important function. It's our **most visible** marketing effort and the results are proven. Anyone interested in coordinating or helping with staffing please let John Swift know.

We continue to seek out new leaders for our Bridge and Executive Committee. Don't be bashful. If interested, please let Carl McGrath or myself know. We can work with folks to assure they walk before they run.

I plan to have a brief orientation session for new members on October 7th at 7pm. I'll be sending out an email to all our newer members prior to this. Our last session was in late April so I'll include new members joining from May until October.

Have a great October and thanks to everyone for continuing to keep us the best squadron in the country.

Scott

## **September 12th General Meeting** **"Completing the Florida Loop" by Tom and Brigitt DeMarzo**





LT/C Neil Pignatano, SN  
Squadron Education Officer  
Education@ccsaps.org

## SQUADRON EDUCATION OFFICER (SEO)

### SEO's Notebook:

# ***What Classes Should I Take?***

This is a very legitimate question from someone trying to advance their boating knowledge and skill level. Of course, the answer depends on one's experience. So, I typically answer the question with more questions. How these follow-on questions are answered allows me to make suitable recommendations. Here are a few of the questions (in no particular order):

1. Do you have any boating experience in SW Florida?
2. Are you skilled in slow speed maneuvering?
3. Do you know how to use navigation aids?
4. Are you familiar with the difference between how navigation aids are used in the Intracoastal Waterway v. other marked channels?
5. What electronic navigation tools do you regularly use?
6. Can you operate your marine VHF radio effectively?
7. Can your first mate operate the vessel in case you cannot?
8. Do you operate your vessel outside of the sight of land (offshore)?

Other questions can (and do) pop up depending on how a given question is answered. At this point it becomes possible to recommend a boating education curriculum that would align with the boater's level of skill and experience. Individual training programs can then be constructed.

Nonetheless, there are some general guidelines that can be followed, and then customized as the need arises. I have crafted guidelines that are specifically directed to folks new to boating here in SW Florida. They can be broadly assigned into two categories. The first is either the absolute beginner boater or the experienced fresh water (lake, river) boater new to the area. The second is the experienced salt water boater, also new to the area. These two groups are going to have disparate skill and experience mixes, so their respective educational requirements would differ as well. For example, the first group will have limited exposure to things like the rules of road or navigation aids (beginner boaters will have none at all). The second group would likely be versed in the rules of the road, and have working familiarity with navigation aids and basic piloting.

So, let's say you're in the first group: no boating experience or experience limited to lakes and rivers. For you, boating training can be grouped into two major categories. The first consists of instruction in Basic Boating Safety and Seamanship. Two courses and two seminars are recommended. Foremost, is successfully completing the ABC course in basic boating safety and obtaining the State of Florida Boater Safety certification. Then reinforce what was covered in ABC with the six session Boat Handling course. These two courses alone provide the basic foundation that all recreational boaters should have. To round out this training, both the All About VHF/DSC Marine Radio and Weather for Boaters seminars should also be taken. The VHF radio is the second most important piece of safety gear on a boat, and all operators and first mates should be proficient in its usage. Understanding basic weather phenomena is also important to



ensure that boating activities are done safely. One cannot rely on the local weather forecasts alone, which, for around here, are notoriously inaccurate.

The other major training category is Piloting and Navigation. Navigation consists of techniques which allow you to determine your current location accurately. Piloting has the skills required to get your vessel from Point A to Point B safely. In our local waters, this can be challenging, if not outright daunting for those without the requisite training or experience. Both Piloting and Navigation are very broad and comprise a large skill set: familiarity with local waters through nautical charts, planning a cruise using a chart, and monitoring progress while cruising. One can obtain a solid foundation by taking a sequence of two seminars and two courses. The first is the SW Florida Boating Primer seminar. This provides both an historical overview, as well as some detailed geographical information in a two-hour session. This will segue into the Introduction to Charting seminar (essentially Chapter 5 of ABC). Here you'll be introduced to nautical charts and the use of digital tools (PC) for planning. Navigating SW Florida: Introduction to Navigation course. Over the course of six sessions, you receive great detail on how to navigate the local waterways using shipboard electronics (chart plotter), PC, tablets, and smart phones. Finally, the Marine Navigation course goes into the full details on how to do electronic navigation. Once you've completed this sequence of seminars and courses, you'll be able to plot a course and navigate almost anywhere locally, even if you've never been there.

If you happen to be an experienced salt water boating (Long Island Sound, Block Island Sound, Buzzard's Bay, Chesapeake Bay, Puget Sound, Catalina Channel, etc.), then your training for local waters need not be quite as extensive. Nonetheless, the two basic training categories remain the same. Typically, you'll have the requisite Boater Safety and Seamanship skills, so these courses and seminars are optional. However, if you do not currently hold a valid out-of-state National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) Boater Safety Certification, it is highly recommended that you take the ABC course and obtain the State of Florida Boater Safety Certification (Florida requires this for anyone born on or after January 1, 1988). Otherwise, ABC is optional. If it's been a while since you last took some basic seamanship, the Boat Handling course is an ideal refresher. Similarly for the VHF Radio and Weather seminars.

In the Piloting and Navigation category, the Introduction to Charting seminar is optional if you are already familiar with plotting and electronic navigation. Since you are new to boating in the area, the Navigating SW Florida: Introduction to Navigation is a must to gain some in-depth local knowledge. This is especially important if you've never cruised on the Intracoastal Waterway. You will need to understand this if your intent is to cruise the Caloosahatchee River and/or Pine Island Sound. Here, the navigation aids are interpreted differently than in other marked channels. Finally, for an in-depth treatise of electronic navigation techniques, the Marine Navigation course is extremely valuable.

For your convenience, I have included a matrix on the next page which covers all that was mentioned above. This should provide a little more clarity than just my somewhat terse narrative.

**NEXT PAGE**





| Cape Coral Sail and Power Squadron Boating Education Curriculum  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| Boater Experience  | Category   | Course (C) / Seminar(S)  | Description  |
| <b>Beginner (new to boating, fewer than 20 hrs at the helm) or Experienced Fresh Water boater (new to SW Florida)</b><br><i>Recommended order for courses and seminars - courses and seminars should be taken in the order listed unless otherwise noted</i> | <b>Basic Boating Safety and Seamanship</b>   | ABC (C)  | Basic Boating Safety, State Certification<br>Provides an in depth look at fundamental safety techniques  |
|  |  | Boat Handling (C)  | Detailed discussions of Seamanship techniques which reinforce ABC topics   |
|  |  | All About VHF/DSC Marine Radio (S)                                       | Learn how to properly use your vessel's VHF marine radio   |
|  |  | Weather for Boaters (S)  | Learn to predict adverse boating weather, in port or underway  |
|  | <b>Piloting and Navigation</b><br><i>order of "SW FI Primer" and "Intro to Charting" seminars may be reversed, but not recommended</i>           | SW FI Primer (S)   | Introduction to SW FI waterways  |
|  |  | Intro to Charting (S)  | Introduces electronic (PC) and traditional techniques for inshore and coastal navigation   |
|  |  | Navigating SW Florida: Introduction to Navigation (C)                    | Piloting in SW Florida waterways using basic electronic navigation techniques on Chart Plotters, PCs, tablets, and smart phones                            |
|  |  | Marine Navigation (C)  | In depth treatise of computer aided navigation techniques using OpenCPN app for inshore and coastal piloting; overview of traditional charting techniques. |
| <b>Experienced Salt Water Boaters (new to SW Florida)</b><br><i>All courses should be taken in recommended order; seminars are optional but can provide a useful refresher</i>   | <b>Basic Boating Safety and Seamanship</b><br><i>"Boat Handling" recommended if it has been an long time since basic boating safety training</i> | ABC (C)<br><i>optional for out-of-state NASBLA certification holders</i> | Basic Boating Safety, State Certification<br>Provides an in depth look at fundamental safety techniques  |
|  |  | Boat Handling (C)  | Detailed discussions of Seamanship techniques which reinforce ABC topics   |
|  |  | All About VHF/DSC Marine Radio (S)                                       | Learn how to properly use your vessel's VHF marine radio   |
|  |  | Weather for Boaters (S)  | Learn to predict adverse boating weather, in port or underway  |
|  | <b>Piloting and Navigation</b>   | Intro to Charting (S)  | Introduces electronic (PC) and traditional techniques for inshore and coastal navigation   |
|  |  | Navigating SW Florida: Introduction to Navigation (C)                    | Piloting in SW Florida waterways using basic electronic navigation techniques on Chart Plotters, PCs, tablets, and smart phones                            |
|  |  | Marine Navigation (C)  | In depth treatise of computer aided navigation techniques using OpenCPN app for inshore and coastal piloting; overview of traditional charting techniques. |

It is the mission of this squadron to provide the education in the interests of boating safety. You can never learn too much or think that you have learned enough. The more you know, the safer you will be. And don't hesitate to contact me if you have any education questions or have specific training requests. I'll do my best to accomodate you or at least, point you to someone who can help.

Until next time...

Neil



# AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB®

Cape Coral Sail and Power Squadron



## Course and Seminar Summary

**Beginner, intermediate or advanced — whatever your skill level, our in-depth boating education courses will boost your knowledge and confidence on the water.**

- **ABC - America's Boating Course** gives you the basics you need to get out on the water safely, and it meets the State of Florida boating education requirements.

- **Boat Handling Course** builds your competence and confidence on the water with an in-depth look at the practical boating skills covered in the ABC course.

- **Marine Navigation and Advanced Marine Navigation Courses** give you the skills you need to get where you're going using charts and marine electronics as well as a knowledge of winds, currents and tides.

- **Engine Maintenance and Marine Electronics Courses and Seminars** deal with common vessel issues faced by today's recreational boater. Learn proper operation and diagnostic techniques for critical systems.

- **Other Seminars** provide a 2 hour introductions to various boating topics, such as Marine Radio, Weather and Forecasting, Handling Emergencies, etc.

**For complete course and seminar descriptions, scan the QR code or go to <https://americasboatingclub.org/index.php/learn>**







# AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB®

Cape Coral Sail and Power Squadron



Scan and find your next course or seminar today!

## America's Boating Course

[ccsaps.org/abc-in-person-classes](https://ccsaps.org/abc-in-person-classes)



## Seminars

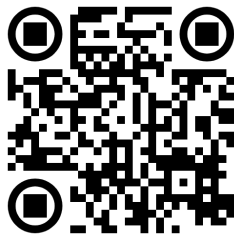
[ccsaps.org/advanced-seminars](https://ccsaps.org/advanced-seminars)



**CCSAPS.ORG**

## Advanced Courses

[ccsaps.org/advanced-classes](https://ccsaps.org/advanced-classes)





## Seminar Sells Out!

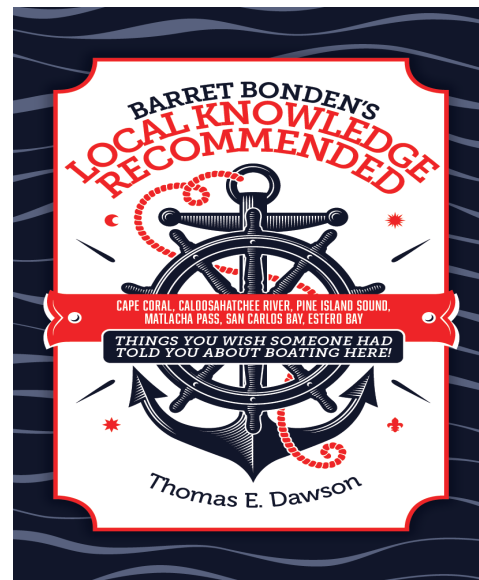
The Local Waters Seminar on September 17th was a sellout. People purchased tickets at the door to take the seats of the few who bought tickets and did not show. Scott Fergen, Tom Dawson and Josh Wurtsbaugh were the instructors and held the attention of their audience for 2 hours without a break. Attendees were Cape Coral residents all wanting to know more about local history and knowledge to be safe and better enjoy recreational boating in SWF. Tom Dawson's new book "Barret Bonden's Local Knowledge Recommended" was developed to accompany this seminar and was sold out before it began. The next Local Waters Seminar with these same 3 instructors is scheduled for 12 November. Tickets are available for \$15 on our website in the "events" section.

## Barret Bonden's Local Knowledge Recommended

Barret Bonden's Local Knowledge Recommended Things you wish someone had told you about boating here! Is now available on Amazon and will be for sale at the squadron offices soon. The cost is \$20.00. The book covers all the topics in the seminar, plus some extras.

Next seminars: Tuesday, November 12th, and Tuesday, January 14th.

Seating is limited so be sure to preregister.



## Local Waters Seminar 9-17-2024





# Looking Ahead -

## October

|           | DAY             | TIME                | EVENT                                      | LOCATION                  |
|-----------|-----------------|---------------------|--|---------------------------|
| 3         | Thursday        | 7:00-9:00pm         | Executive Committee Meeting                | Cape Coral Power Squadron |
| 4, 5, 6   | Fri-Sat         | D22 Fall Conference | Charlotte Harbor Event Center, Punta Gorda | *see attached flyer       |
| 7         | Monday          | 7:00-8:30pm         | CCSAPS Orientation                         | Cape Coral Power Squadron |
| 9         | Wednesday       | 7:00-8:00pm         | Fishing Group                              | Cape Coral Power Squadron |
| 25        | Friday          | 5:00-7:30pm         | International Potluck Party                | Cape Coral Power Squadron |
| <b>31</b> | <b>Thursday</b> |                     | <b>Happy Halloween</b>                     |                           |

## November

|           | DAY             | TIME        | EVENT                         | LOCATION                  |
|-----------|-----------------|-------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 4         | Monday          | 7:00-9:00pm | ABC Course begins             | Cape Coral Power Squadron |
| 5         | Tuesday         |             | Election Day                  |                           |
| 7         | Thursday        | 7:00-9:00pm | Executive Committee Meeting   | Cape Coral Power Squadron |
| 11        | Monday          |             | Veterans Day                  |                           |
| 12        | Tuesday         | 7:00-9:00pm | SW Boating Seminar            | Cape Coral Power Squadron |
| 13        | Wednesday       | 7:00-8:00pm | Fishing Group                 | Cape Coral Power Squadron |
| 14        | Thursday        | 6:00-9:00pm | CCSAPS General Membership Mtg | Cape Coral Power Squadron |
| 15        | Friday          | 5:00-9:00pm | Good Vibrations Welcome Back  | Cape Coral Power Squadron |
| 20        | Wednesday       | 7:30-9:00pm | ABC Graduation                | Cape Coral Power Squadron |
| <b>28</b> | <b>Thursday</b> |             | <b>Happy Thanksgiving</b>     |                           |

## December

|           | DAY       | TIME        | EVENT                       | LOCATION                  |
|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 5         | Thursday  | 7:00-9:00pm | Executive Committee Meeting | Cape Coral Power Squadron |
| 11        | Wednesday | 7:00-8:00pm | Fishing Group               | Cape Coral Power Squadron |
| 14        | Saturday  |             | Holiday Hoopla Party        | Cape Coral Power Squadron |
| <b>25</b> |           |             | <b>Merry Christmas</b>      |                           |





# 2024 - 2025 BRIDGE OFFICERS

## **Commander**

Scott Steele, S  
commander@ccsaps.org

## **Executive Officer**

John Swift  
execofficer@ccsaps.org

## **Squadron Education Officer (SEO)**

Neil Pignatano, SN  
education@ccsaps.org

## **Administrative Officer**

Jeff Maddy, AP  
adminofficer@ccsaps.org

## **Secretary**

Leslie Corte-Real, S  
secretary@ccsaps.org

## **Treasurer**

Carl McGrath, P  
treasurer@ccsaps.org

## **Assistant Bridge Officers**

Commander's Aide:  
Carl McGrath, P

## **Assistant Executive Officer**

Curt Collins

## **Assistant SEO**

Antal "Tony" Zsupan, P

## **Asst Administrative Officer**

Vacant

## **Assistant Treasurer**

Gary Farwick

## **Assistant Secretary**

Edwin Estes

## **Chaplain**

Tessa Buechler, S

## **Building Manager**

Terry Rosenstrauch

## **Assistant Building Manager**

Larry Rich, SN

## **Rental Manager**

Allen Casteran

## **Assistant Rental Manager**

Marge Maciag, SN  
margedm5@gmail.com

## **Executive Department**

Vessel Safety Check Program  
Craig Buechler, S  
Tessa Buechler, S

## **Co-Op Charting**

Denny Pearson, AP

## **Farmer's Market**

Vacant

## **CERT and SERAT Coordinator**

Vacant

## **Media Relations**

Jeff Maddy, AP

## **Ship's Store**

Vacant

## **Secretary's Department**

### **BUOYS Editor**

Sally Fuller  
buoys@ccsaps.org

## **Tech/Dbase/Squadron Directory**

Vacant

## **Webmaster**

Nancy Maddy, S

## **Social Media**

Joette Humphrey

## **Administrative Department**

Cruise & Rendezvous  
Phillip Kryger

## **Entertainment Committee**

Karen Collins

## **Fishing Group**

John D'Esposito

## **Kayaking Group**

Jeff Maddy

## **Membership**

Carolyn Token

## **Member Involvement**

Tessa Buechler, S  
Barb Riordan, S

## **Pantry Inventory Mgr**

Vacant

## **Weekdayer Boaters**

Doug Brenton, S

## **Weekender Boaters**

Scott Fergen

### **GRADES**

S - Seaman (aka Boat Handling)

AP - Advanced Pilot

P - Pilot

JN - Junior Navigator

N - Navigator

SN - Senior Navigation

Indicates the highest level of education completed. Follows the name of the person.



# Help Wanted

## WEBMASTER

Assume management of [ccsaps.org](http://ccsaps.org) the squadron website. Website uses Wix, a popular, user-friendly platform that requires no coding. Some design experience helpful. Will train!

## SQUADRON LIVE CALENDAR ADMIN

Duties include updating the website's live calendar and including ticket links if applicable. Will train!

## TICKETLEAP ADMIN

Manage our squadron's ticketing platform. This position requires minimal technical skills. Create event pages for squadron meetings, entertainment events and educational seminars. Will train!

All above positions offer a flexible schedule, and again, **WILL TRAIN!**

Contact [nancykmaddy@gmail.com](mailto:nancykmaddy@gmail.com) for more information for the above positions.

## FARMERS MARKET COORDINATORS

Together with fellow squadron members, coordinate weekly farmer market representation and canopy manning at weekly Cape Coral Farmers Market. Introduce community to our squadron by responding to boating questions and sharing enthusiasm for boating and boating safety. Inform and share our squadron resources and opportunities of participating in our educational classes and seminars as well as becoming a member of our squadron. Contact John Swift for questions and further information at [execofficer@ccsaps.org](mailto:execofficer@ccsaps.org)



We think  
You're Kind of a  
**BIG DEAL!**  
Thanks for volunteering!

# CCSAPS Boating Groups

*Weekdayers* traveled to Yucatan Restaurant on Matlacha with five boats and 16 participants! Everyone enjoyed great food and even better conversation!



## Cruise and Rendezvous

Snook Bight trip is on October 9, 10, 11. Interested in going? Book your spot now by contacting Phil Kryger at [ppkryger@gmail.com](mailto:ppkryger@gmail.com) **ASAP!** Check out the location at: <https://snookbightmarina.com/attractions/#attractions>





## Co-Op Charting Group

Denny Pearson

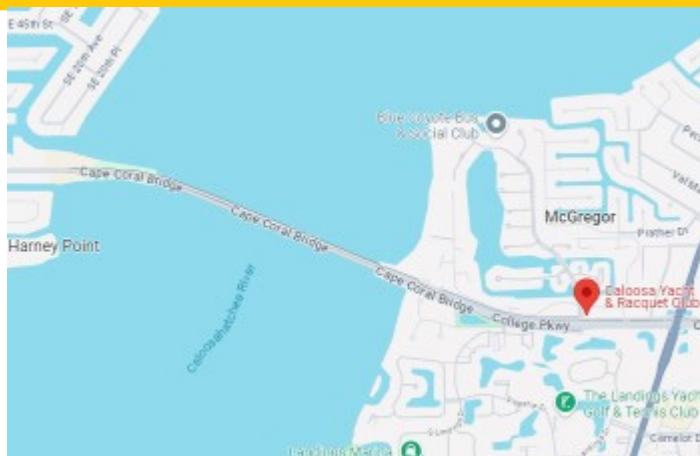
The Co-Op Charting group is on a short break after completing the summer run season in August and the start of the next run season in November. The past summer season did present some challenges with morning weather conditions and the need to reschedule a number of the runs. The group did manage to reschedule and complete all 10 routes by mid August. The new Training Run Program was well received during the past season and will continue next season. The Training Runs are simulated ATON Verification Survey Runs focused on training crew positions during the simulated run and conducted on one of our river routes. Each new crew member receives training prior to, during, and after the training run.

The next Run Season starts in early November with the scheduling starting in October for a Route A (Royal Palm Yacht Club, Ft, Myers to Franklin Lock) run before November 15. The seasonal Routes include 10 Routes with 709 Aids and cover 134 miles of waterways. Please contact Denny Pearson at [coopcharting@ccsaps.org](mailto:coopcharting@ccsaps.org) with any questions.

We will not have a meeting in October. Our next Co-Op Charting group meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 12 at 7:00 PM. The group meetings for next season move to the evening of the second Tuesday of the month at 7PM.

## BOAT SLIPS AVAILABLE!

The newly remodeled Caloosa Y&R Marina still has a few boat slips available for rent. It is located next to the Cape Coral Bridge right on the river. The rent is only \$11 a month per foot of your boat. Water and electricity are included. Only one slip left for a thirty six foot boat. The rest of the slips are up to twenty six feet. Contact Terry Rosenstrauch at: [terryrosenstrauch@gmail.com](mailto:terryrosenstrauch@gmail.com)







# Vessel Safety Check Update

Craig Buechler

Our Cape Coral chapter expects to surpass 200 vessel safety checks prior to the end of this year as we experience the “Great Migration” to SWFL. With our increasing and crucial expectation to meet vessel safety checks, we will need more qualified inspectors. There is a requirement for inspectors to complete a minimum number of inspections per year to maintain proficiency. Fortunately based on our squadron recent survey results, there does appear interest from our members to participate in this vital role. I will be reaching out to those who expressed interest very soon and please do not hesitate to contact me at [buechlercraig@yahoo.com](mailto:buechlercraig@yahoo.com) if you would like to serve as an inspector or if you have any questions.



**Welcome New Members to the Cape Coral Sail and Power Squadron!**

**Cole Williams  
Kathleen Serra  
Fernando Serra  
David Button  
Lucille Button  
Bryan Leftwich  
Tessa Leftwich  
Calvin C. Tan  
Marianne Tan  
Keith England  
Michelle England  
Karen Kidder**

## VESSEL SAFETY CHECK

### What is a Vessel Safety Check (VSC)?

It is an opportunity to have your vessel’s safety equipment examined by a qualified vessel examiner of the United States Power Squadrons. There are NO fines, penalties, or reports to any other agency.

If your vessel is properly equipped, you will be awarded a current VSC decal to display. Decal display does NOT guarantee that you will not be boarded.

Provided you do not remove any equipment, you’ll have peace of mind knowing you have the required equipment in an emergency and know where it’s located in the event you need it or are inspected by boating law enforcement.

### What are the benefits of a VSC?

The VSC can identify SAFETY and money saving opportunities:

- 1 - By meeting federal, state, and local safety equipment requirements you will prevent equipment related citations.
- 2 - You may receive a boating insurance discount from your insurance provider.
- 3 - By increasing awareness of safety practices you may avoid accidents and costly breakdowns.
- 4 - The VSC can reduce accidents by educating the boater about the value and use of safety equipment and safe practices on the water.

To schedule yours, contact us by phone @ (239) 549-9754, CCSAPS website, visit the squadron office Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays 9:00 a.m. - noon, or email [buechlercraig@yahoo.com](mailto:buechlercraig@yahoo.com) to schedule your vessel safety check today.

## Entertainment Committee and the Fun Report

- Karen Collins

In August the Entertainment committee partnered with the Weekenders for our Splish, Splash let's have a blast! We had a group of 6 boats and one jet ski that joined our party.

We anchored just offshore of beautiful Sanibel Island where the CCSAPS enjoyed a picnic lunch, followed by some fun games on the beach. We hosted an egg toss which got pretty interesting, as well as our T shirt/ Ketchup and squirt gun fun. Our events keep getting larger, more livelier and we hope everyone comes and joins the fun!

The Entertainment Committee hosted our Cheeseburgers in Paradise event on September 20th. OMGOSH it was so FUN with 58 people attending which is pretty great even with it being an "off-season" event. Our guests showed up to the smell of fresh burgers cooking on the grill which certainly was amazing. Everyone brought a dish to share, and we had an mouth watering dessert table for our guests with a HUGE pineapple palm tree that certainly created the festive atmosphere. The margarita jello shots certainly were a hit as well as our signature drink- 'Wasted Away Again'. We played Jimmy Buffett Bingo and it was clear we had several seasoned Parrotheads in attendance! BINGO was followed by "Jimmy Says" (a mix between Simon says and musical chairs- you had to be there)! We also had a Hula dress up, where the gals dressed the guys with coconut bras, grass skirts etc. It was a super fun night had by all!

Final note: We forgot one thing...The lost shaker of salt is still hiding at the Power Squadron. Flip flops, Hamburger Helper and a Margarita for the one who finds it!











# HAPPY OCTOBER-BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

- William J. Francis
- Tammy Jeffery
- Nicholas Carter
- Jill Anderson-Dohogne
- Donna Emlaw Boone
- Kevin Mertz
- Sharyn L. Waidzunas
- Daniel L. Sweeney
- Patricia A. Meier
- George F. Kenneke
- Karen A. Collins
- Matt Schneider
- Ronald E. Reinert
- Joyce C. Barkalow
- Jon S. Burgess
- Scott M. Steele
- Donald A. Keech
- Ronald A. Eder
- James S. Humphrey
- Arthur R. Ludwig
- Janet Apfel
- Antal Zsupan
- Cheryl D. Anderson
- Yutta McCants
- Deborah M. Stetts
- Lloyd E. Wolfe
- Teresa M. Buechler
- Danny Cregger
- Ginny Newman
- Deanne H. Coates
- Margaret Sander
- Sharon L. Jones
- Thomas R. Marshall
- Scott Russ
- Barb Riordan
- Trisha Marsh



CCSAPS ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE PRESENTS

# Let's Get Social

Mark your calendar for these upcoming events



## INTERNATIONAL POTLUCK PARTY FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2024 5:00 PM CAPE CORAL POWER SQUADRON

Come share your heritage, and enjoy food from around the world!

Bring your favorite dish along with the recipe to share! Italian, German, Brazilian, Dominican, Swedish, Russian, Portuguese...you name it!

\$10 per person includes beer/ wine/ soft drinks/ water

<https://www.ticketleap.events/tickets/ccsaps/international-potluck-party>

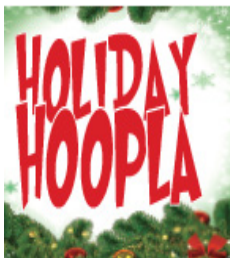


## GOOD VIBRATIONS WELCOME BACK FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2024 5:00 PM CAPE CORAL POWER SQUADRON

Cape Coral Power Squadron welcomes back our snowbirds with good vibes! Enjoy classic food just like Mom used to make!

Beer, Wine, Soft Drinks and Water provided  
\$20.00 per person. Fun nostalgic games, music, prizes! We can't wait to see you!

<https://www.ticketleap.events/tickets/ccsaps/good-vibrations-welcome-back-snowbirds-nov15>



## HOLIDAY HOOPLA PARTY SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2024 5:00 PM CAPE CORAL POWER SQUADRON

- Bring an appetizer or dish to share and a gift under 15.00 (can be funny or practical)
- We will host 'steal a gift', as well as many other fun games!

Come and get your Holly/Jolly on!

<https://www.ticketleap.events/tickets/ccsaps/holiday-hoopla>





## You Need to Know Where the Manatees Are By Barret Bonden

According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service “Collisions with boats is the largest known source of mortality and accounts for approximately 25% of all documented manatee deaths recorded in Florida since 1976.”

Manatees aren’t confined to Manatee Park; we boat with them daily. If you live and boat here, there is no excuse for not knowing where the manatee protection zones are. Do you really need a sign to remind you of their existence? The speed limit signs throughout the county that mark these zones are still missing and may not be back anytime soon. Just because they are not there doesn’t mean the manatee are gone and don’t need protection.

The squadron has copies of the Lee County Boaters Guide. It’s a simple guide that provides an overview of the manatee speed zones. If you don’t have one, stop by the office and pick up a copy. You can view the guide on line at <http://swflwaterways.com>.

If you want a more detailed breakdown of the manatee areas visit [www.myfwc.com](http://www.myfwc.com) and search for Manatee Protection Zones. There you will find all kinds of manatee information. Download the 6-page PDF file <https://myfwc.com/media/7302/leempz-brammaps.pdf> that shows you all of the federal and state manatee zones in Lee County and please share with your friends and neighbors. Let’s make sure everyone knows the rules.

Currently law enforcement officials may not be issuing speeding tickets until the signs get back up. However, if you are breaking the law, don’t be surprised if they stop you if you are speeding, and expect to receive a warning about your violation of the rules. Keep in mind that if you do not have a Vessel Safety Check sticker, law enforcement may decide to do a safety inspection and ask to see if you have all of the safety equipment on board.

### Please help protect manatees

#### Look out for manatees

- Look and listen for manatees before starting your engine.
- Wear polarized sunglasses to reduce glare from the water.
- Watch for a manatee nose, back or tail.
- Look for a swirl or circular pattern on the surface of the water.



#### Conservation guidelines

- Comply with posted speed zones.
- Properly dispose of fishing line and garbage; never discard in the water.
- Do not feed or give water to manatees.

**Report accidental collisions, injured, orphaned or dead manatees to 888-404-3922, #FWC or \*FWC on cell, or text [Tip@MyFWC.com](mailto:Tip@MyFWC.com).**



## Congratulations to our September ABC Grads - WELL DONE!







**Cape Coral Power Squadron is hosting an International Potluck Party Friday, October 25, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.**

- Come share your heritage, and enjoy food from around the world!
- Bring your favorite dish along with the recipe to share! We can make copies at the Power Squadron.
- Italian, German, Brazilian, Dominican, Swedish, Russian, Portuguese...you name it!
- \$10 per person includes beer/ wine/ soft drinks/ water

**SIGN UP ON TICKETLEAP**

<https://www.ticketleap.events/tickets/ccsaps/international-potluck-party->



**October is Fire Safety Month**

America’s Boating Channel video “Fire Extinguisher Regulations” offers an overview of the rules that separates commercial and recreational vessel fire protection requirements. It will help you learn how to ensure that all required portable fire extinguishers comply. Also featured are tips for preventing onboard fires in the first place.

If you need a refresher on classifications and carriage requirements for marine fire extinguishers, the channel offers a second video titled “Fire Extinguisher Standards.” It offers tips for placing and servicing fire extinguishers, and explains the acronym PASS. Above all, ensure that the proper number of functional fire extinguishers are on board, readily accessible and that all responsible adults on board know to pull, aim, squeeze, and sweep.

U.S. Coast Guard approved marine-type fire extinguishers fully charged and in good and serviceable condition are required on recreational boats where the engines or fuel system could pose a fire hazard. Good and serviceable means that a fire extinguisher aboard a recreational vessel is properly charged and reads charged if it has a pressure gauge reading or charge indicator, that the extinguisher has a pin lock that is firmly in place, that it does not show visible signs of significant corrosion or damage and has a discharge nozzle that is clean and free from obstructions. Disposable dry chemical extinguishers expire 12 years after their date of manufacture, and rechargeable extinguishers expire annually unless maintained by a certified technician.

Follow the video links above or visit <https://www.youtube.com/@AmericasBoatingChannel> to find these and other safe boating videos, which are an excellent tool to help recruit participants to our educational program and to membership. Invite your friends and neighbors to watch, like and subscribe to America’s Boating Channel to introduce them to what our organization has to offer.

\*Look for more upcoming fire extinguisher training in the near future with our squadron..



**2024**  
***FALL CONFERENCE***  
**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**October 4 - 5, 2024 - Charlotte Harbor Event Center**  
75 Taylor Street, Punta Gorda, FL 33950

**Friday October 4** – ***ALL*** Member Workshop

0900 - 1130 – iMIS Workshop (bring your laptop)

1130 – 1300 – *Lunch on your own*

1300 -1500 – Marketing your Squadron Workshop

1600 – Gathering Dinner at The IceHouse Irish Pub, 408 Tamiami Trail #111, Punta Gorda

**Saturday October 5**

0800 - 0900 - Coffee and Pastry

0830 – 1200 - Registration Desk Open

**0900 -1145 - Roundtables and Seminars**

**0900 – 1015 – CPR/AED – P/D/C Cliff Schmidt, JN**  
*Adult CPR with AED*

**0900 – 1015 - Education Updates – D/Lt/C Myles Gee, SN**  
*Hear All the Latest Updates Released at the Governing Board*

**1030 – 1145 – Kayaking/Paddleboarding – Allison O’Brien**  
*Planning and Executing Safe and Fun Paddling Trips*

**1030 – 1145 – Squadron MuVIT discussion – Lt/C Ron James, N**  
*MuVIT discussion for the squadrons that purchased a system*

**1030 – 1145 – Town Hall – D/C Ron Jones, AP**  
*Bring any questions and/or issues that you might have.*

1200 -1330 – **Lunch - speaker Ashley Cook, Park Manager of Alligator Creek Preserve**  
1300 – 1350 – Registration Desk Open

1345 -1600 – **District Conference with Approval of 2025 Budget**



## Conference Roundtable Information to help plan your day



### Friday 4 October

0900 - 1130 – iMIS Workshop (bring your laptop)

*Led by Lena Padro, USPS Member Services Manager*

1300 -1500 – Marketing your Squadron Workshop

*Led by Tammy Brown, USPS Marketing Director*

### Saturday 5 October

#### 0900 – 1015 Roundtables:

#### Adult CPR with AED

*Led by P/D/C Cliff Schmidt, JN*

Discussion on basic First Aid Emergencies on the Water  
This is a hands-on class with practice on Manikins

#### Education Updates

*Led by – D/Lt/C Myles Gee, SN*

All the Latest Updates Released at the Governing Board. Discuss your squadron's issues.

#### 1030 - 1145 Roundtables:

#### Planning and Executing Safe and Fun Paddling Trips

*Led by Allison O'Brien, Sarasota Squadron*

Things to consider when planning group paddling trips. Stay safe and have fun!

#### Squadron MuVIT Discussion

*Led by Lt/C Ron James, N*

MuVIT discussion for the squadrons that purchased a system.  
Let's discuss what's working, what's not working - How can we help each other -  
What are your plans for using your MuVIT?

#### District 22 Town Hall Meeting

*Led by D/C Ron Jones, AP*

Use this opportunity to discuss issues which may be of interest to the group.  
Bring your questions and/or issues that you might have.