

## Atlantic hurricane season races to finish within range of predicted number of named storms

**2024 season came roaring back despite slowdown during typical peak period**

(For full article: <https://www.noaa.gov/news-release/atlantic-hurricane-season-races-to-finish-within-range-of-predicted-number-of-named-storms>)

The 2024 Atlantic hurricane season, which officially ended on Nov. 30, showcased above-average activity, with a record-breaking ramp up following a peak-season lull.

The Atlantic basin saw 18 named storms in 2024 (winds of 39 mph or greater). Eleven of those were hurricanes (winds of 74 mph or greater) and five intensified to major hurricanes (winds of 111 mph or greater). Five hurricanes made landfall in the continental U.S., with two storms making landfall as major hurricanes. The Atlantic seasonal activity fell within the predicted ranges for named storms and hurricanes issued by NOAA's Climate Prediction Center in the 2024 August Hurricane Season Outlook. An average season produces 14 named storms, seven hurricanes and three major hurricanes.

2024 Atlantic Tropical Cyclone Names

Alberto, Beryl, Chris, Debby, Ernesto, Francine, Gordon, Helene, Isaac, Joyce, Kirk, Leslie, Milton, Nadine, Oscar, Patty, Rafael, Sara, Tony, Valerie, William

Twelve named storms formed after the climatological peak of the season in early September. Seven hurricanes formed in the Atlantic since September 25 — the most on record for this period. "The impactful and deadly 2024 hurricane season started off intensely, then relaxed a bit before roaring back," said Matthew Rosencrans, lead hurricane forecaster at NOAA's Climate Prediction Center, a division of NOAA's National Weather Service. "Several possible factors contributed to the peak season lull in the Atlantic region. The particularly intense winds and rains over Western Africa created an environment that was less hospitable for storm development."

**CAPE CORAL SAIL & POWER SQUADRON, INC.**

America's Boating Club®

A Unit of the United States Power Squadron, Inc. – District 22

Phone (239) 549-9754 • 917 SE 47th Terrace Cape Coral, FL 33904

OFFICE HOURS TUESDAY, THURSDAY, AND SATURDAY 9:00 a.m. - noon

[www.ccsaps.org](http://www.ccsaps.org)

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## COMMANDER'S REPORT



Scott Steele Commander  
ABC Cape Coral Sail  
& Power Squadron

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving. Though we've had a busy hurricane season it looks like most made it through without any major issues. Let's hope the next few years are a little less exciting.

As many of you know, Bill Harris and Tom Dawson are retiring from teaching our ABC class. Replacing these two gentlemen is a tough task. Both have taught for years, and along with Ted Dawson, truly are a Dream Team. Ted will continue teaching, but we need additional instructors. Ted can't do it solo. We met last Monday with a few folks who had interest in helping. We will meet again on Monday, December 9th at 1pm. If you have an interest in helping teach a section of this course, please attend. We are looking to break up the sections under Ted's guidance. We are not asking that new instructors do every class or jump in without some mentoring. If there's an area you'd like to present, please stop by on the 9th. The meeting is at the squadron.

I've been thinking about squadron leadership succession for quite a while. We are heading for a potential disaster if more people don't start showing interest in volunteering and getting involved. We've had some great people step up recently and take on new roles. To these folks I am sincerely grateful. However, we have more roles and that need to be filled. People on the bridge normally serve for 1 year in a role. Ideally, officers start out with the Admin or Secretary Roles and then work up to XO and Commander. That was done historically. The problem we face is getting new officers that want to learn and lead. We can adapt and don't need to follow a set path. Commanders are usually in the role for 1 year. I'm in my 3rd year and no one has shown any interest in replacing me. Carl was Commander for 2 years and has been Treasurer the last 3 years. We enjoy what we do, but we can't or won't do it forever. I realize that running our squadron is not the easiest job in the world, but barring pandemics and major hurricanes it's not that bad. I'll be blunt: Without a Commander, Treasurer, or any of the other Bridge positions we will cease to function. We are the largest squadron in the United States with around 400 members. I'd think we could find a few more people who can help keep us successful. Please reach out to Carl or myself if you can contribute to resolving this issue.

We've had some good fortune in that we have been able to get the Farmer's Market going again, though we are not at full strength. We've got a small crew who have really stepped up. My thanks to Mike and Sherry Carter. We need more folks who can help. Azim Salmon has expressed interest in coordinating this activity. If you want to enjoy a few hours at the Farmer's Market, please let John Swift, Azim, Mike or Sherry know. We appreciate the help.

Along with the Farmer's Market, we have signed up for a 2 day booth at the Cape Coral Arts Festival. This is in January. Not only are they doing the typical art booths, but this year they are also doing a boat show. The boat show is being conducted by The Nautical Mile magazine. It should be a fun event and we will forward more details as they become available.

iMIS is still a mess but we have made some local progress. Carl and I think we've worked out the bugs to actually know how many members we have. Carolyn Token has also been very helpful in getting new members processed. This has not been easy. It's one step forward and two steps back. We've installed some manual processes to try and help members be aware of renewals. Barb Riordan has been sending out reminder emails, as we can't trust that the national system is working.



We did hear from our national organization that they think they have an insurance solution. This is good news, as they own the policies that insure us when doing VSC's and Co-op Charting. We don't have a lot of details but it sounds positive.

We've got the Holiday Hoopla event coming up on December 14th. You can sign up on Ticket Leap or through our website. As always, it should be a lot of fun. See below flyer for more info.

Enjoy the cooler weather and have a great Christmas.  
Scott

CCSAPS ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE PRESENTS

*Come celebrate the season with us at  
the Miracle on 47th Terrace*

# HOLIDAY HOOPLA

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14 • 5:00 PM**

Cape Coral Sail & Power Squadron  
917 SE 47th Terrace  
Cape Coral 33904

## HOLIDAY HOOPLA!

**Saturday, December 14, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.  
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!**

### SIGN UP ON TICKETLEAP

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



# November Southwest Florida Boating Seminar A Success

By Barret Bonden

The November local waters seminar had a packed classroom thanks to all the members who turned out. Tom Dawson, and Josh Wurtsbaugh did bang-up job of helping attendees understand why our waters are like no others they may have experienced.

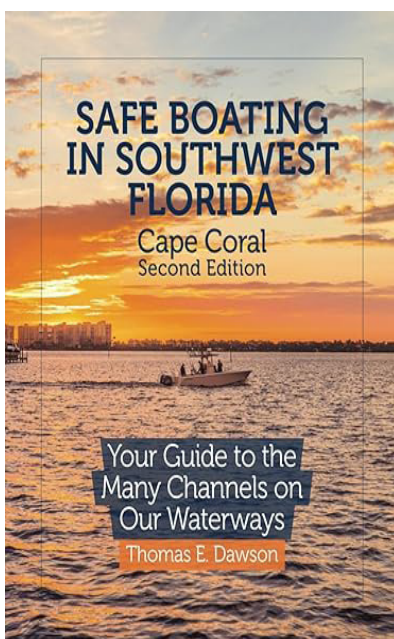
Josh always makes a couple of very important points that are worth repeating. First, don't just follow another boat assuming they know where they are going. It may be a rental boat driven by someone that knows less about our waterways than you. Also taking a short cut might save you five or six minutes but could end up costing you five to six thousand dollars. Learning the local waters is key to enjoying your day on them.

Carl McGrath, Mike and Sherry Carter had a busy night before and after the seminar working the pop-up "Ship's Store." Many of the attendees stopped in and bought local charts, the Boater's Destination Guide, and copies of Dawson's books about boating in our area. All these items make great Christmas gifts for your boating friends. These are also available during normal office hours.

If you enjoyed the seminar, be sure to tell your friends and neighbors about it. The 2025 winter and spring dates are scheduled for Tuesday, January 14th, Tuesday February 11, and Tuesday April 8th. All sessions start at 7:00 pm. Seating is limited, and preregistration is needed to ensure a seat. Registration for the Southwest Florida Boating Seminar can be found on the Events Page at [www.ccsaps.org](http://www.ccsaps.org).

Stay Safe,  
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. Barret also encourages members to continue their boating education by taking more of the boating courses and seminars offered by the Squadron. Check The Buoys for upcoming dates.



Books available at  
the Squadron Office  
or Amazon.com







# We are Proud of our Amazing Instructors!



Congratulations to Ted Dawson, the District 22 recipient of the Charles Chapman Award. The Charles Chapman Award honors individuals or groups who have made outstanding contributions to the sport of boating for the benefit of the recreational boating industry and boating public.

(For a listing of our district winners, see pages 16-17 at the end of this newsletter.)

## Congratulations to Bill Harris, Tom Dawson and Ted Dawson for the Polaris Award, honoring Excellence in Team Teaching.





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

## SQUADRON EDUCATION OFFICER (SEO) SEO's Notebook: End of Year Thoughts

Our current break is well deserved. After a “busy” hurricane season, it’s time to enjoy the company of friends and family as we celebrate the holidays and the start of a new year. The fall term has come to an end, but the winter term starts up, in earnest, in January with our flagship ABC class. Speaking of ABC, two of our instructors, Bill Harris and Tom Dawson, have retired from their teaching roles after many years of dedicated service. Please join me in thanking them for their diligence and unwavering service. Fortunately, a few volunteers have stepped up to help fill the void (a non-trivial task to say the least), to assist our remaining ABC instructor, Ted Dawson, as we enter the new year. It is worth mentioning, that with the completed November ABC class, Ted has taught his 100th class, with over 3500 students passing through his classroom, unequalled in the entire country. Congratulations to Ted on the impressive milestone!

Navigating SW Florida and Marine Navigation classes have wrapped up (or are very close to finishing). Both were well received and will be offered in the winter/spring term. Also, the Local Waters Seminar continues to be popular. For those that attended this seminar, if you thought it was a lot of material to cover in two hours, you might want to consider attending the Navigating SW Florida course. This course covers much of the same material, but at a much more leisurely pace (six two-hour sessions), and also introduces the use of modern electronics to aid in navigation. Electronic navigation is covered in great detail in the Marine Navigation course. So, to those that completed the Navigating SW Florida course, please consider signing up for Marine Navigation to further hone your electronic navigation skills.

Speaking of instructor retirements, long time instructor (most recently for our Boat Handling course) Herb Schneider decided to call it a career. Many thanks to Herb for his years of dedicated service, as well as his in-depth knowledge and experience. Herb is a lifetime member and has served many roles in USPS, including District Commander.

As the weather turns colder, manatees are starting to make their way into warmer waters. Manatees can be challenging to see in the water despite their size. Boaters and watercraft operators can better spot manatees by wearing polarized glasses, going slow and abiding by all manatee protection zones. During colder months, seasonal manatee zones require boaters and personal watercraft users to reduce speed in, or avoid, certain areas to prevent collisions that can injure or kill manatees. Manatee protection zones are marked by waterway signs; maps of these zones are available online at [MyFWC.com/MPZ](http://MyFWC.com/MPZ).

Boat strikes are a major threat to Florida manatees and FWC law enforcement officers patrol state waters, informing boaters of seasonal manatee speed zones and taking appropriate enforcement actions when







necessary. Boaters and personal watercraft users are reminded to comply with the regulatory signs on waterways. So go slow and lookout below.

Finally, anyone interested in becoming an instructor please contact me. No experience is needed, but you will need to be comfortable in a public speaking role. We will provide all the necessary training and, if necessary, certification. It's fun and fulfilling, and provides a great opportunity for someone to enhance their own knowledge and skills.

Until next time...

**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

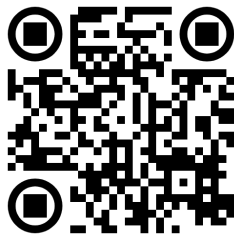
[ccsaps.org/advanced-seminars](https://ccsaps.org/advanced-seminars)



**CCSAPS.ORG**

## Advanced Courses

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







# Looking Ahead -

## 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 |
| 25 | Wednesday |             | Merry Christmas             |                           |

## January

|    | DAY       | TIME        | EVENT                       | LOCATION                  |
|----|-----------|-------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1  | Wednesday |             | Happy New Year!             |                           |
| 2  | Thursday  | 7:00-9:00pm | Executive Committee Meeting | Cape Coral Power Squadron |
| 6  | Monday    | 7:00-9:00pm | ABC Boating Course begins   | Cape Coral Power Squadron |
| 8  | Wednesday | 7:00-8:00pm | Fishing Group               | Cape Coral Power Squadron |
| 14 | Tuesday   | 7:00-9:00pm | SW Boating Seminar          | Cape Coral Power Squadron |
| 18 | Saturday  | 6:00-8:00pm | Chili/Chowder Cookoff       | Cape Coral Power Squadron |
| 22 | Wednesday | 7:30-9:00pm | ABC Boating Graduation      | Cape Coral Power Squadron |





# Boating Group Happenings

## Weekenders outing to Parrot Key Caribbean Grill

We had gorgeous weather and a super fun Weekenders boat outing with 6 boats and 26 people! We headed over to Parrot key Carribean grill for a delicious lunch. It's so exciting to see and socialize with so many new members. We hosted our 50/50 raffle (not sure why we call it 50/50 as we give away ALL the money!)







# Boating Group Happenings

## Cruise and Rendevous

Since the last three scheduled trips to Snook Bight have been cancelled due to hurricanes, we have planned for January 6, 7, 8 - six slips reserved at Snook Bight. We will have a meeting on 3 December at the Power Squadron to to discuss (contact Phil for more info: [ppkryger@gmail.com](mailto:ppkryger@gmail.com))  
No cruise scheduled for December.

## Weekdayers

**Weekdayer outing for December TBD - Stay tuned!**

## CO-OP Charting - Two runs completed in November



Run A on November 18, with lunch following the run at FINS in Cape Coral

Run E on November 19, lunch following the run at Gramma Dots on Sanibel and a total of 29.3 miles traveled



# Entertainment Committee and the Fun Report

- Karen Collins

GOOD VIBRATIONS 11/15/24 (see below pics)

The Entertainment committee worked to transport our members back to 1965 with our Good Vibrations Party. We all channeled our “inner Hippie” and enjoyed tons of great comfort food just like Mom made, along with desserts from the 60’s like the yummy root beer floats. We hosted several nostalgic games including ‘The Price is Right’, ‘The “Nearly” ‘Newlywed Game’, ‘Name that Jingle’ and more. We all had a great time singing along to “Oh I wish I were an Oscar Myer Weiner.”

**HOLIDAY HOOPLA on 12/14/24. Time to get in in the Christmas Spirit! We are asking everyone to bring an appetizer to share along with a fun gift under \$15.00;we will be hosting a “steal a gift which is always a blast!**

The entertainment committee will provide an amazing dessert table along with your favorite beer, wine, das!



## FEELIN' GROOVY!





# 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**

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**

Sherry Carter

## **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

## WEEKDAYERS BOATING COORDINATOR

Do you like to take your boat out on the weekdays with other squadron friends for lunch and fun times? We are in need of a new weekdayer boating coordinator and if you hop in to help now before the current one leaves us, he will even train you! What a great way to get involved and have fun too!

## Are you a *newish* member of our club?

If this sounds like you, there is a very good chance we have your new member name tag waiting for you, especially since we have name tags dating back a year or two. Most of us wear our squadron name tags at every event since we all suffer from "I forgot your name" syndrome. We always want to get to know our members better and learning names is the first and easiest way. Please stop by any time the squadron is open and get your name tag and we look forward to seeing you at events and getting to know better (or at least know your name)!

## 36th Annual Christmas Boat Parade

at Fort Myers Beach, December 7th, 6-9pm

See Fort Myers Beach Chamber website for more information:

<https://www.fortmyersbeach.org/events/christmas-boat-parade-2024/>



## 36th Annual Boat Parade



## November General Meeting Recap:

November’s General Membership Meeting for the Cape Coral Sail and Power Squadron featured Gwen Carlisle and Zachary Gogel, both from the City of Cape Coral Redevelopment Agency (CRA). The agency’s purpose is to enhance the South Cape area (or Cape Coral Strip) of Cape Coral, specifically from the Cape Coral Bridge, west along and on either side of Cape Coral Parkway to Santa Barbara Boulevard as well as north along Palm Tree Boulevard to include the old Cape Coral Golf and Tennis Resort.

Armed with financial tools provided under state law and local ordinances, the CRA is tasked with cleaning up blighted areas, assisting business with marketing efforts and utilizing planning tools. An example includes the South Cape Banner Program, allowing local businesses and non-profit organizations to place banners on poles on Cape Coral Parkway and Del Prado Boulevard.

Areas under construction discussed were The Cove development on 47th Terrace and parking structure, and the Bimini Square development on the south side of Cape Coral Parkway. The Cove will have 290 residential units and 18,000 square feet of retail space with 525 parking spaces, 125 spaces reserved for public use. The public spaces will have a sliding fee structure, ranging from free to \$2.00 an hour. The parking project received a \$10.35 million infusion from the CRA. Fire hydrants along a portion of 47 Terrace will be moved north to allow for greater flexibility of street closures on 47th Terrace for special events. The estimated completion date is Spring 2025.

The Bimini Square development will have 190 residential units, a 47,000 square foot medical office space leased to Lee Health, 7,500 square feet of waterfront restaurant use, 625 parking spaces including 125 spaces reserved for public use as well as 27 boat slips and renovation of the mooring field for vessels in Bimini Basin. Off-site improvements for sewer and stormwater treatment are estimated to be \$3.2 million. The estimated completion date for Bimini Square is Fall 2025 with the adjacent mooring field in Bimini Basin being completed in Winter 2026.

The Cape Coral Sail and Power Squadron welcomes members, both boaters and non-boaters alike. Known as America’s Boating Club®, its emphasis is on boating education and boating activities, as well as land-based social functions for its members. For information about membership, please call 239-549-9754.

Welcome New Members to Cape Coral Sail and Power Squadron (don’t forget to pick up your name tags) 😊

**Scott Kempe**  
**Eric Anderson**  
**Sandi Anderson**

### Social Media

Thank you to Sherry Carter for taking on our social media point person. Our Squadron on-line community presence builds our connections with potential members, students, boat enthusiasts and future students. You can help foster these connections by following our squadron on Facebook and Instagram, and simply liking our posts - it’s that EASY to help spread awareness of what we do to educate the boaters and soon to be boaters and friends in our community!

**D22 2024 Fall Conference**  
**Awards, Certificates, and Trophies**

**Charles Chapman: Award**

Theodore E. 'Ted' Dawson, S - Cape Coral

**Polaris Award for Excellence in Team Teaching Candidate - Cape Coral**

Theodore E. 'Ted' Dawson, S

William E. 'Bill' Harris

Thomas 'Tom' Dawson, AP

**Prince Henry the Navigator Trophy**

Marco Island Sail & Power Squadron

**Education Proficiency Award**

Zoran Stanistic, AP, St Petersburg Sail & Power Squadron

Michael Kohl, AP, San Carlos Bay Sail & Power Squadron

William J. 'Wink' Thorntor, AP, Sarasota Power & Sail Squadron

**Flag for Educational Excellence**

This award is very complicated and almost impossible to award. None of our squadrons qualified for this award. This award will be modified for next year. For this year we will point out squadrons that exceeded in their classes for this Educational calendar year.

**ABC3**

The following squadrons "increased" passed students over last year:

Cape Coral

Ft Myers

Peace River

Sanibel Captiva

Sarasota

St. Petersburg

Tampa

Venice





## **D22 2024 Fall Conference Awards, Certificates, and Trophies**

### **ADVANCED GRADES**

The following squadrons met the qualifications for the Flag of Educational Excellence in Advanced Grades:

Marco Island Sail & Power Squadron  
Sarasota Power & Sail Squadron

### **ELECTIVE GRADES**

The following squadrons met the qualifications for the Flag of Educational Excellence in Elective Grades:

Peace River Sail & Power Squadron

**The following are our Squadrons that ranked in the top ten Nationally in classes held this past year:**

Seamanship -7 - Sarasota  
Piloting - 6 - Lakeland  
Junior Navigation - 6 - Marco Island  
Cruise Planning - 9 - St Petersburg  
Engine Maintenance - 7- Peace River  
Communication Systems - 9 - Peace River

### **District 22 Ranking of classes Nationally in Advanced Grades:**

Seamanship - 3  
Piloting - 9  
Advanced Piloting - 7  
Junior Navigation - 8  
Total advance Grades ranking - 4

### **District 22 Ranking of classes Nationally in Elective Classes:**

Cruise Planning - 10  
Engine Maintenance - 9  
Sail - 9  
Instructor Development - 10  
Communication Systems - 8  
Electrical Systems - 9