

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB THE BUYS



Cape Coral Sail & Power Squadron • A Unit of United States Power Squadrons® • District 22

Issue 01-25

January 2025

Welcome 2025

We have a great year ahead of us at the Cape Coral Sail and Power Squadron and look forward to seeing everyone on a boat, social event, class or seminar, Farmers Market or the Arts Festival in just over a week. The wonderful thing about our squadron is that there is something here for everyone whether you are passionate about boating or simply enjoy an occasional outing on the water. Take a look inside this month's newsletter and we look forward to seeing you soon!

Cape Coral Arts Festival - January 11-12, 2025

When: Saturday, January 11 from 10:00am to 5:00pm
Sunday, January 12 from 10:00am to 4:00pm

Where: Cape Coral Parkway in downtown Cape Coral between Del Pardo Blvd and SE 10th Place

Featuring: Over 300 artists and craftspeople from around the world, live entertainment, food and a variety of artwork

Parking: Free parking is available near the artists booth, as well as city-owned lots and on-street parking

See <https://capecoralartfestival.com/> for more info.

***** Contact John Swift to help in our Squadron Booth, execofficer@ccsaps.org**

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

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COMMANDER'S REPORT



Scott Steele Commander
ABC Cape Coral Sail
& Power Squadron

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and Happy New Year to everyone. I hope everyone enjoyed their holidays and Santa was good to you.

To be totally transparent with the general membership, I want to bring people up to speed on a project that is underway. The Bridge and ExCom are looking at our squadron building options. As most of you know, after Ian, our building insurances costs jumped from around \$6,000 to approximately \$23,000 per year. This increase brought to light that we needed to evaluate our current situation. Let me state up front that no recommendations or decisions have been made. Any future building recommendation would need approval of the general membership. The rationale for looking into building options is financially and operationally driven. From a finance perspective, we are just breaking even, which includes our rental income. Operationally, we have too few resources to run an ongoing rental program. Our building/rental complexity is

consistent with a small business. Another issue is that our building is underutilized, older and not user friendly. We have 2 stories that total 9600 square feet. We don't have an elevator. The stairs create issues for many of our members. We really only need a maximum of 3700 square feet, inclusive of separate areas for training and entertainment events. We are currently paying for a lot of empty space. Another consideration is our location and the outlook. We aren't a retail operation. Being on 47th Terrace is nice, but not a priority. In fact, all the activity around us can be a negative, especially when events shut down the street or Club Square. Another consideration is that we are in a very marketable situation. Though prices have come down, we have current estimates that look very attractive. We've got a lot of analysis and work to do on this project. Again, nothing has been concluded. We are looking at options. We may end up doing nothing. As I mentioned previously, I just want to be transparent with what we are investigating.

We've got a few events coming up where we need some volunteers to help. In addition to needing folks to help out with the Farmer's Market, we are participating in the Cape Coral Art Festival on January 11th and 12th. As most know, this is a major event that shuts down Cape Coral Parkway. We are manning a booth on both days. They expect over 100,000 to attend and this year includes a boat show. It should be a lot of fun and maybe a bit chaotic. We've also been asked to participate in the Cape Coral WaterWays Science Festival on February 1st. This is an educational event and we are focusing on boater safety. We will do a booth similar to what we do at the Fort Myers Boat Show. We will be sending out via email a request to get volunteers for both. We will break up these days into smaller shifts so we don't overwork anyone.

We've got ABC and other educational seminars and classes starting back up in January. I know I've mentioned it before, but Tom Dawson and Bill Harris have retired from teaching ABC. We are very appreciative of their years of instruction. Ted Dawson will continue to lead this class and we are working to bring a few more instructors up to speed.

Keep in mind that our next general meeting is in February and this is an important one. We will be voting to approve next year's budget and officers. We need a quorum for an official vote so please try to attend. Our Change of Watch is then scheduled for February 28th.

Let's hope for a prosperous and uneventful year in 2025 and thanks to everyone for their continued support and efforts towards our great organization.

Scott



If you like us, Tell a Friend or Neighbor!

By Barret Bonden

We are asked all the time to rate our experiences, it is a never-ending request to boost rating for all types of products and services. So, I ask what have you done to promote us lately? We provide services to the community we are proud of, are you “telling a friend” about us?

January is the height of “snow bird” season. All those folks from “up north” are back and will be here through the spring. Some are already members, and we welcome them back, others may not even know who we are. As a club we have lots to offer both. All you have to do is share a good word about us with the people you meet.

Our calendar is full of upcoming events, classes and seminars that would be good way to introduce us to your friends and neighbors. The new local waters seminar, “Southwest Florida Boating Seminar” is a great way to introduce new residents and boaters to the types of classes and seminars we offer. “America’s Boating Course” provides a firm foundation for understanding how to stay safe on our waters. This May, the annual Hurricane seminar will provide boaters with some sound advice and ideas for what the need to do to prepare their vessel for the next big blow.

Our Vessel Examiners should be back in business early this year. A vessel safety check provides a good way for

new folks to get some one-on-one advice on items they may need to equip their boat with. Boating is different down here and our Vessel Examiners are ready to help. The Lifejacket Loaner program can be a lifesaver in multiple ways. You don’t need to be a member to take advantage of it. If the grandkids are coming down for visit you can borrow a jacket, so you don’t have to buy one. Making the little ones wear a jacket around the pool is a good idea. If you need an oversize jacket for a guest, we probably have a loaner that will fit. Finally, consider attending our social events to get caught up with old friends. Think about bringing a new friend or neighbor to one of our upcoming social events. Yes, these are member events, but it can be a good way to make new residents feel welcome in our community.

Stay safe on the water,
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. Consider picking up a copy of “Barret Bonden’s Local Knowledge Recommended - Things You Wish Someone Had Told You About Boating Here!” It is available at the office and Farmer’s Market.

Sign up today for the
SW Florida Boating Seminar on
January 14

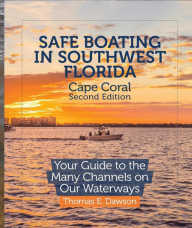
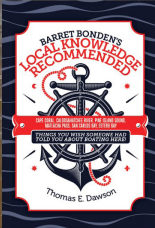
TO REGISTER:

<https://www.ticketleap.events/tickets/ccsaps/southwest-florida-boating-seminar-551020525> or see page 6 for QR code

Invite a friend or neighbor to join you!




Don't get stuck on an oyster bed!

Learn about our local waters.

Order your copies today on Amazon.





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

SQUADRON EDUCATION OFFICER (SEO)

Happy New Year

Happy New Year to all! Hopefully you all had a peaceful and enjoyable holiday season. But now it's time to gear up for the winter/spring boating season here in beautiful SW Florida. We at the Cape Coral Sail and Power Squadron want everyone to have fun and be safe when they're out on the water. To that end, we continue to provide our array of boating education offerings to provide the knowledge and skills you need to stay safe. Remember, an educated boater is a safe boater!

The winter term starts in earnest on January 6 with both ABC and Boat Handling. Registrations are still being accepted for both classes. If you're new to SW Florida, ABC provides a great introduction into basic boating safety, especially those things unique to SW Florida. And, if it's been a while since you last took ABC, the Boat Handling course provides a great way to refresh your memory. Online registration is available for both classes from our website.

There are three good seminars in January and February. These two-hour classes provide invaluable information for boating in our local waters. On January 23, there is the Introduction to Charting seminar, which provides basic instruction in modern marine navigation techniques. Weather for Boaters occurs on February 4. This seminar introduces very simple weather forecasting techniques without the use of fancy instrumentation or an internet connection. Learn how to predict the weather by just observing, and you'll reduce the chances of getting caught in a nasty thunderstorm. The ever-popular Wine and Knots seminar is on February 7. Four basic knots are paired with a wine and dessert. It's loads of fun, as well as being educational. Again, online registration is available on our website.

Last year, we introduced a new six-week course called Navigating SW Florida: A Guide for Recreational Boaters. This course provides in-depth knowledge, based upon over 300 hours of actual experience, for getting around the local waterways around Cape Coral. Learn how to safely navigate the Intracoastal Waterway, San Carlos Bay, Pine Island Sound, Matanzas Pass, and Charlotte Harbor. This is a unique opportunity to get information that is otherwise unavailable anywhere else.

Speaking of boating safety, we all know that the Personal Floatation Device (PFD) is the most important piece of safety equipment aboard your vessel. Do you know what the second most important piece of safety equipment is? Most folks don't. It's the Marine VHF Radio. Almost all modern vessels come equipped with one these days. If your boat doesn't have one, be sure to have a portable hand-held unit on board (and in your ditch bag!). Did you also know that there have been recent channel number reassignments? You may have seen email from the National organization a few months ago referring to that. Channel assignments can be found at <https://www.navcen.uscg.gov/us-vhf-channel-information>. Would you like to know more? Then sign up for the two hour All About Marine VHF/DSC Radio seminar to be held April 15.

We would like to offer more courses and seminars, but our limited number of instructors prevents us from doing so. If you'd like to try your hand at this, 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



Seminars

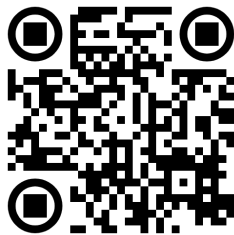
ccsaps.org/advanced-seminars



CCSAPS.ORG

Advanced Courses

ccsaps.org/advanced-classes





Looking Ahead -

January

	DAY	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
1	Wednesday		Happy New Year!	
6	Monday	7:00-9:00pm	Boat Handling Course begins	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
9	Thursday	7:00-9:00pm	EXCOM Meeting	Cape Coral Power Squadron
14	Tuesday	6:00-8:00pm	Member Meet Up Fords Garage	1719 Cape Coral Pkwy.E
14	Tuesday	7:00-9:00pm	SW Boating Seminar	Cape Coral Power Squadron
22	Wednesday	7:30-9:00pm	ABC Boating Graduation	Cape Coral Power Squadron
23	Thursday	7:00-9:00pm	Intro to Charting	Cape Coral Power Squadron

February

	DAY	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
4	Tuesday	2:00-4:00pm	Weather for Boaters	Cape Coral Power Squadron
6	Thursday	7:00-9:00pm	EXCOM Meeting	Cape Coral Power Squadron
7	Friday	7:00-9:00pm	Wine and Knots	Cape Coral Power Squadron
11	Tuesday	7:00-9:00pm	SW Boating Seminar	Cape Coral Power Squadron
12	Wednesday	7:00-8:00pm	Fishing Group	Cape Coral Power Squadron
13	Thursday	6:00-9:00pm	CCSAPS GENERAL MEETING	Cape Coral Power Squadron
14	Friday		Happy Valentines Day!	
28	Friday	5:30-9:00pm	CHANGE OF WATCH	Cape Coral Power Squadron

March

	DAY	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
3	Monday	7:00-9:00pm	ABC Course begins	Cape Coral Power Squadron
6	Thursday	7:00-9:00pm	EXCOM Meeting	Cape Coral Power Squadron
8	Saturday	1:00-3:00pm	Partner in Command	Cape Coral Power Squadron
11	Tuesday	7:00-9:00pm	Boat Handling Course begins	Cape Coral Power Squadron
12	Wednesday	7:00-8:00pm	Fishing Group	Cape Coral Power Squadron
17	Monday		Happy St. Patricks Day!	
19	Wednesday	7:30-9:00	ABC Boating Graduation	Cape Coral Power Squadron
21	Friday	7:00-9:00pm	Intro to Charting	Cape Coral Power Squadron



Boating Group Happenings

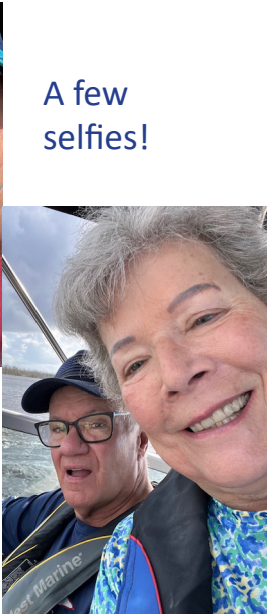
Weekenders

We had gorgeous weather and a super fun Weekenders boat outing with 3 boats and 11 people at Phuzzys on Pine Island on December 6th. Water levels were low, but we all made it!



Weekdayers

The Weekdayers had a delicious lunch at Gramma Dot's in early December. A special thanks to Marian and Doug Brenton for coordinating these outings every month. We will miss you and good luck in Colorado!



A few selfies!





Boating Group Happenings

Cruise and Rendevous

We have planned for January 6, 7, 8 - six slips reserved at Snook Bight. February Cruise is scheduled for the 5th and 6th at Pink Shell. Our meetings are scheduled on the first Tuesday of every month at the Power Squadron to to discuss (contact Phil for more info: ppkryger@gmail.com). *Assistance with this group is requested! If you can lend a hand, please let Phil know.

CO-OP Charting

The Co-Op Charting group paused our operations during the month of December while National worked on a new insurance policy that affects coverage for the runs. The group will start runs in January as soon as we receive confirmation of new insurance coverage in force. We will then reach out to the group to start the run scheduling process. The runs coming up in January will be Route H (Pine Island Sound to Cabbage Key and Cayo Costa), Route G (Pine Island Sound to Redfish Pass, Captiva) and Route B (Moody Canal Entry, Cape Coral to Paradise Yacht Club, Cape Coral). The new Training Run Program will continue in 2025. 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. Our next Co-Op Charting group meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 14 at 7:00 PM. The group meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7PM during the run seasons. Please contact Denny Pearson at coopcharting@ccsaps.org with any questions.

Social Media

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram

Thank you to Sherry Carter and Leslie Dicken for keeping us active on social media. 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 communtiy!

Entertainment Committee and the Fun Report

- Karen Collins

HOLIDAY HOOPLA on 12/14/24 was filled with fun and festivity! We enjoyed delicious appetizers and an amazing dessert table, played "Guess the Christmas Carol", a blindfold snowball scoop game and everyone enjoyed a gift, even if one or two were stolen from them at first!

See you on January 14th at Fords Garage in Cape Coral. Drinks at 5:30pm and dinner at 6:00pm. Sign up on Ticket Leap and pay at the event. Stay tuned for more events for a fun 2025!





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

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Sally Fuller
buoys@ccsaps.org

Tech/Dbase/Squadron Directory

Vacant

Webmaster

Nancy Maddy, S
Sharon Eberhardt

Social Media

Sherry Carter
Leslie Dicken

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

Weekday Boaters

Vacant

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 coordinator leaves us for Colorado, 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)!

Welcome New Members to Cape Coral Sail and Power Squadron

Tedd Cowling
Julie Cowling
Todd Trimm
Philip Littleton
Sandra Francis
Kelly Wong
Diane Howlin
Richard Howlin



Happy December Birthdays!

Herbert Schneider
Laura Woodward
Elizabeth Mueller
Arnie Wong
Seaby Bess
Connie Farmer
Phillip Kryger
Robert Meier
Deborah Clements
Linda Jenkins
Gary Jackson
Cynthia M. Anderson
Mike Vickers

Michael Roe
Douglas Volpp
Thomas Summerour
Chuck Kreutz
Robert Moskin
Lori Medeiros
Bruce Bailey
Karen Shelton
Daniela Fergen
Tammy Wilson
Marian Schuenemann
Jim White
Mitch Reinholt

Jim Sander
Craig Riesen
Marcey Williamson
Stacy Koczara
David Coxon
Karen Kidder
Cole Williams
David Button
Calvin Tan
Scott Kempe
Kelly Wong



Happy January Birthdays!

Lewis Dance
Raymond Wlodyka
Augustine Mazziotti
Mary Heitman
Leonard Chatman
Ronald Blake
Corinne Knightly
Walter Jenkins
Deborah Beach

Paul Ellsworth
Jake Schneider
David Gherlone
Charles Medeiros
David Kalish
Allen Casteran
Kenneth Coates
Debra Meinert
Pam Riesen

Paula Carter
Scott Newman
Michelle Mencia
James Collier
Cheryl Collier
Craig Mollet
Sandi Anderson



Report of the Nominating Committee

In accordance with section 6.8 of our Bylaws: "The Nominating Committee shall select a candidate for each elective office and for the chair and members of each elective committee provided for therein. It shall submit its' written report to the Secretary at least 40 days before the annual General Meeting."

This report was submitted to the Secretary on 31 December 2024. In accordance with section 9.3 of our Bylaws: "The Annual General Meeting shall be held on the second Thursday of February at Squadron Harbor at which time election of officers and members of the elective committees shall be held.

" Written notice of this election has been published in the January 2025 issue of "The Buoys".

For Watch Year March 2025– February 2026

Bridge Officers / Assistants

Commander	Scott Steele, S
Executive Officer	John Swift
Education Officer	Neil Pignatano, SN
Administrative Officer	Leslie Corte-Real
Secretary	***
Treasurer	Carl McGrath, P

Commander Aide	Carl McGrath, P
Asst. Ex Officer	S. Curt Collins
Asst. SEO	Tony Zsupan, S
Asst. Admin	***
Asst. Secretary	Ed Estes
Asst. Treasurer	Gary Farwick

Executive Committee

S. Curt Collins	(1)
Scott Fergen	(3)
Lee Corte-Real	(1)
Dennis Pearson	(2)
Craig Buechler	(3)
Josh Wurtsbaugh	(2)
Connie Farmer	(3)
Tom Dawson	(2)
***	(2)
***	(3)

Audit Committee

Rules Committee

Patrick Flash, SN
Herb Schneider, SN

Nominating Committee

Carl McGrath, P

Respectfully Submitted,

Carl McGrath, P
Chair Nominating Committee

*** We continue to recruit members to help run our all volunteer organization. If you have time to spend and an interest in the future of our organization, contact the Chairman at treasurer@ccsaps.org.

These nominations will be brought up to the General Membership at the General Meeting on 13 February 2025. It is very important that all members attend this meeting so that the nominations can be approved. See Commander Report for notice of this meeting.