

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB THE BUOYS

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

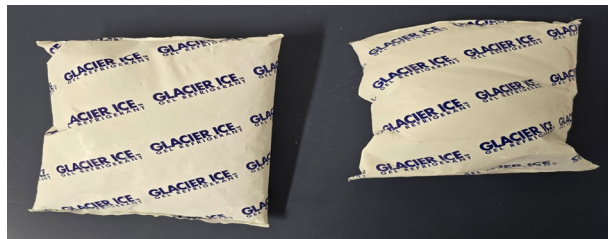
Issue 05-25

May 2025

Heat Exhaustion is Real

With the increasing heat and humidity here in SW Florida, now is a good time for a reminder about the dangers of heat exhaustion. Being outside on our boats or on the beach on a hot day in the sun can be dangerous if you're not prepared. According to the Mayo Clinic, quite simply, heat exhaustion is a condition that happens when your body overheats. Besides the hot weather and strenuous activity, dehydration, alcohol use and overdressing can cause heat exhaustion. Symptoms may include heavy sweating and rapid pulse. Heat exhaustion is one of the three heat-related illnesses, with heat cramps being the mildest and heatstroke being the most serious. Without prompt treatment, heat exhaustion can lead to heatstroke. Symptoms of heat exhaustion are: heavy sweating, faintness, dizziness, fatigue, weak, rapid pulse, cool/moist skin with goose bumps when in the heat, low blood pressure upon standing, muscle cramps, nausea and headache.

Thankfully there are some quick things you can do to treat heat exhaustion including resting in a cool place, drinking cool fluids and easy cooling measures. Our squadron member, Mike Carter provided a tip he learned from his nine years working in EMS as a first responder in Maryland that we can all easily use in case we ever encounter someone in heat distress. Mike suggests having four freezer packs as seen in the below picture. If someone is suffering from heat distress, give them water and put one cool pack in each armpit and one in each side of the groin area and close the arms and legs. This is a quick way for the blood to transport the coolness to the body core. As a reminder, only give fluids if the person is conscious to avoid choking.



For more information, check out the Mayo Clinic article on symptoms and remedies for heat related illnesses: <https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/heat-exhaustion/diagnosis-treatment/drc-20373253>

CAPE CORAL SAIL & POWER SQUADRON, INC.

America's Boating Club®

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

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

www.ccsaps.org

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COMMANDER'S REPORT

late afternoon.



Scott Steele Commander
ABC Cape Coral Sail
& Power Squadron

Sharon and I took a road trip to Ohio a couple weeks ago. I decided to drive because we took TJ, our recently rescued German Shepherd with us. It's been about 5 years since we've driven through Atlanta. Never again... Atlanta makes Cape Coral look like a rural village.

Our building is officially for sale. We met with the agent a few weeks ago and signed the listing agreement. You'll note the sign out front. It's also being advertised on multiple sites. We've had some interest but it's still early. Considering all the economic chaos that's happened over the past month, I think it will take some time for the dust to settle. We'll see how it goes over the next few weeks. If we see any major activity we'll be sure to keep everyone updated. As of today, it's business as usual.

Our next General Meeting is May 8th. Lite Bites is at 6pm. Make sure you go to Ticket Leap if you want to sign up for Big 8 BBQ. You can find it at www.ccsaps.org, in the events tab. We have Lee Ehrlich lined up as a guest speaker. Lee has quite the resume as an adventurer/explorer and is recognized as an expert in underwater paranormal activity. It should be an informative and interesting meeting.

I'll be attending our District 22 conference on May 3rd in Bradenton. See last pages of this newsletter for the agenda. It will be interesting to sit in on the town hall and hear what the Chief Commander has to say. I'll do my best to be on good behavior. If anyone wants to ride along feel free to let me know. I'll go up Saturday morning early and return

Our annual hurricane preparation seminar is scheduled for May 14th. It's always worth attending and open to the public. Tom Dawson will be leading the discussion. Tom has previously written about some new websites that we found useful during last year's excitement. Even if you've attended before, it's always worth the refresher. May has a lot of things happening before we hit the summer slowdown. ABC kicks off on May 5th with graduation and the charting seminar on May 21st and 22nd. We have the Mexican Lindo social on May 15th and the Merit Mark recognition dinner on May 20th.

I want to recognize the Entertainment Committee for all the work they do. We just had the chili cook-off and it was outstanding. We had 11 chefs prepare chili and soup. We sampled some amazing recipes and no one left hungry. The events just keep getting better and better. Keep in mind that we have one more Buoy published in June, but then we skip July and August. We do maintain current events on our website during these months. Things start picking back up in September.

Our District 22 has its own website and Facebook page. I get notifications and a recent article was very interesting. I've attached the link:

<https://amisun.com/sail-power-squadron-identifies-missing-waterway-markers/>

Now here's the rest of the story: A few of us know Dave Haddox pretty well as he is involved with educational development and he's past commander of the Anna Maria squadron. The kicker is that the Mayor, Mark Short was one of my college roommates and is a very close friend. He's very much aware of the important things we do for our communities.

Have a great May.

Scott



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

SQUADRON EDUCATION OFFICER (SEO)

SEO's Notebook: Are You Prepared?

As much as I dislike reminding everyone, June 1st will be here before you know it. It's time to get your hurricane plan in place. Regardless of whether an above average or below average hurricane season is predicted, it only takes one to make things difficult. To aid in getting your vessel ready, please attend our annual Hurricane Preparation for Boaters seminar on May 14, 2025 at 2 PM in Squadron Room 101. If you can't make it, here are some suggestions for getting your vessel secured.

To get started, remove all covers, mats, and cushions, as well as lower the radio antenna to a horizontal position. If you have an open cockpit some of your electronics may have protective covers. Remove those, as well. Empty all the external lockers of their contents. Remove drain plug (if your boat has one) and shut down all electrical system, including disconnecting the batteries and any shore power.

Are you going to leave your boat on the lift? If so, be sure to raise the lift cradle as high as practical. And remove the lift canopy if you have one. Keep the lift from swinging by securing the cradle to the dock pilings at least four points. The biggest source of destroyed boats is the lift swinging in the wind and crashing against the pilings. The pilings will eventually fail, causing the lift and everything on it to come crashing down. Many DIY solutions are available, as well as commercially available one to accomplish this. And be sure that your boat is strapped to the lift cradle. Use 2" DOT certified cargo ratchets and straps (like what are used on flatbed trucks).

If you're keeping the boat in the water, be sure to double-up on your lines. Set all your bow, stern, and spring lines on port and starboard, for a total of sixteen. If you are in a slip, attach fenders every 2-3 ft. to mitigate any collisions with the dock. And leave enough slack to accommodate storm surge. Also be prepared for the eventuality of water receding and potentially grounding your boat (as what happened in 2017 during Hurricane Irma).

Boats on trailers should either be placed in a hurricane resistant enclosure or strapped to the ground. Strapping to ground is a non-trivial endeavor and requires preparation. This solution requires either concrete footings or large diameter and long "tent" stakes to which the heavy-duty ratchet straps are attached.

So, unless you have access to a hurricane resistant boat shelter, you'll likely need to employ one of the methods described. Your vessel can survive with minimal damage if proper precautions are taken. Even in something like this:



Until next time...

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



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>



What is a Merit Mark?

By Barret Bonden

This month there will be a special gathering hosted by Commander Scott Steele, the Merit Mark Social. When I first joined the squadron, I had no idea what a Merit Mark was. When I was told I had earned one I was surprised and puzzled. So, I pulled up a copy of the Operations Manual to find out what this was all about.

“A “Merit Mark” (MM) is awarded by the chief commander to a member for substantial personal effort in furthering the interest, programs and objectives of USPS, its districts and squadrons. It is a coveted award; it is by and large the only official recognition members receive for their efforts. Only one merit mark may be awarded in a year to a member, no matter how extensive the contribution.”

In other words, it is a “thank-you” for the time you spend volunteer doing work for the squadron. No club can succeed without the many people who step up and make things happen. If you are one of those who are on the list of those earning Merit Marks, thank-you.

As one of our volunteer instructors there are a few people I would like to acknowledge for their support of my volunteer activities over the last year. Without the support of these individuals our local waters seminar would never have happened. We would have never reached the 300 plus individuals that attended the seminar in the last 15 months.

My thanks go out to Jim and Joette Humphrey who lobbied for this new seminar to be created based on feedback from their time running the Farmer’s Market. Mike and Sherry Carter have taken over the market duties and help with the seminar by running the Ships Store before and after the seminar. Carl McGrath has been there each session checking people in and helping in the Ships Store. Josh Wurtsbaugh has been a big hit with the attendees by sharing his insights on places to go and how to get to them safely. Scott Fergen and John Hessenbruch helped us get the seminar started. Also thank-you to Ted Dawson and Bill Harris, without their encouragement I never would have started volunteering in the first place.

Finally, thank-you to all our members, new and old, that have come to the seminar, especially those that brought a friend or neighbor and have encouraged those people to consider joining our club. Next fall we plan on resuming the local waters seminar and with your support we hope that it will continue to be a success.

Have a safe and happy summer!

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. And he would like to urge you to think about how they can step up and help around the club, the clubs future is in your control.



Vessel Safety Check Examiners Corner

Craig Buechler

904-477-5240

craigbuechler@yahoo.com



A good way to earn a Merit Mark, and serve your community by ensuring all boaters/vessels are aware of and in compliance with current safety standards; is to become a certified Vessel Safety Examiner(VSE). We are in need of additional CCSAPS members to become VSE's as our numbers are declining due to current VSE's moving, retiring etc. Below is a list of items required to become a certified VSE. You must be active member of CCSAPS to become a VSE.

General Steps to Becoming a Vessel Examiner

1. Contact your Squadron VSC Chair. (Craig Buechler)
2. Download/print latest VSC manual. (US Coast Guard Vessel Safety Check Manual COMDTINST M16796.8A Oct 2014 which can be found on National's Website Vessel Safety Check page.)
3. Study, put it under your pillow, etc.
4. When you think that you are ready, take the test on line. (Found on National's Website, *Become a Vessel Examiner*)
5. Upon completion of test, and receiving passing grade, email results to SQN VSC Chair (craigbuechler@yahoo.com)
6. Request Squadron Chair to schedule/perform 5 joint Vessel Safety Checks with a qualified CCSAPS Vessel Examiner.
7. Once you have completed 5 joint inspections, email SQN VSC Chair, and I will submit the VSC-2 form to National.
8. Congratulations! You now are a qualified VE and go out and inspect to your hearts content. Decals and inspection forms will be provided to you upon request.

Once you are a certified Vessel Examiner, you will wear the uniform during your safety checks:

- o Red "USPS uniform polo shirt" with words "Vessel Examiner" and USPS logo on it. Eduardo Lamberti, www.emprintpac.com, 239-205-5967 will do this for a nominal fee. Or it can be obtained through National Website if desired.

- o Tan/khaki colored pants (long or short), comfortable boat shoes and optional VSC cap .

- o Inflatable Life Jackets should be worn as a normal part of uniform to illustrate the ease of always wearing a life jacket whenever on the water. Inflatable Life Jackets are supplied by Squadron.

We can use all the VSE's that we can get, as there are a lot of boats in our area. If you have any further questions or needs, please feel free to contact Craig Buechler and thank you for your consideration.

Farmers Market

- Mike Carter

Even though the Cape Coral Farmers Market continues through the summer, our squadron's booth and presence the last time this season will be on May 3rd. We had a very successful season meeting and talking with fellow boaters including those visiting on vacation, snowbirds and seasonal residents, and of course year round residents too. We encouraged these folks to sign up for our classes and seminars and discovered how grateful and appreciative people were to learn the waters better and become safer boaters. We were also successful with our retail sales of charts, restaurant guides and the two books: *Safe Boating in Southwest Florida* and *Local Knowledge Recommended* (see below picture) which are all valuable resources for any boater in the area.

If you're around on Saturday, the 3rd, come out and say hi and think about volunteering and joining us next season when we start again in late November. Just contact me at farmmarket2@ccsaps.org. I bet you will have fun and realize how much you do know about boating in the local area. This truly is a team effort because we work together. Remember you will not be alone because Sherry and I will be there to back you up on most subjects. Hope to see you next season!



**Friends don't let friends
get stuck on an oyster bed!
Give a copy to your neighbor!**

Copies available at the office.





Boating Group Happenings

Weekenders

The Weekenders enjoyed their April outing at Mainstay and Barnacles Bar restaurant on North Captiva. It was a beautiful sunny day with eight boats and 28 boat club members! For more info, please contact Scott Fergen, scottfergen@gmail.com.



Weekdays

The Weekdays are planning a brunch trip to Phuzzy's Boat Shack in St. James City on May 9th. For more info please contact Curt Collins, fzq907@gmail.com.

Cruise and Rendezvous

The next Cruise and Rendezvous Meeting will be Tuesday, May 6th, 10:30 at the Power Squadron Building. Please attend the meeting if you would like to participate or call Phil Kryger at 847-997-5683.

Co-Op Charting

by Denny Pearson

Currently, Co-OP Charting Survey Runs remain on hold. We are continuing to work with USPS District 22 on the insurance loss from National for the ATON Survey Run operation. Other squadrons are currently in the same situation with a hold on their runs until we are able to solve the current insurance issue. I will be attending the D22 Conference on May 2nd where discussions will take place on this issue and where things stand. It is my hope that a solution is determined so that we can restart the runs in some fashion soon.

Happy May Birthdays!

Arlen Mure
Manuel Ariza
Maureen Blake
Carl McGrath
John Bourke
David Milne
Mary Husby
William Knight
Sharon Steele
Craig Buechler
Adrienne Patterson

Douglas Doty
John Stubbs
Steven Collins
Carolyn Token
Daniel Waters
Michael Waters
Steven Salz
K Reeder
Gary Farwick
Johnny Joyce
Debra Ternullo

Ryan Fuller
Sean Fuller
Sally Fuller
Don Schmitt
William Snow
David Chandler
Constance Leege
Annie Scott



Welcome New Members

Robert Johnson
Margaret Johnson
William Burchianti
Patricia Quinto
Paul Bonnes
Kathleen Bonnes

Entertainment Committee and the Fun Report

- Karen Collins

What a great turn out we had for our Annual Chili Cookoff! We had a huge crowd with 11 amazing chefs and no one left hungry that's for certain! Congratulations to Connie Farmer and our Mystery Guest, Christian who won best soup/chili. After filling our bellies, the fun began with our foodie games. The blindfolded taste test contest was entertaining with our tasters trying to determine which fruits, cheese, veggies or herbs they were sampling. We played a few more fun food games before our night ended. Thanks to everyone for such a wonderful evening and we look forward to this again next year!



Entertainment Committee and the Fun Report, pg. 2

May's event will be an off site dinner stretching out the Cinco de Mayo to a Quince de Mayo! Sign up on Ticketleap for a headcount. This is a pay as your go event. Hope to see you there for delicious food and great fun!



QUINCE DE MAYO

May 15, 2025 5pm

@ Mexican Lindo

3724 Del Prado Blvd S, Cape Coral

i Join us for a belated Cinco de Mayo celebration !

RSVP w/ TicketLeap

***This is not a CCSAPS sponsored event. All food and beverages are responsibility of the patron.**



Entertainment Committee and the Fun Report pg.3

In June, we are planning a very COOL BEACH PARTY on Sanibel (last year we had 16 boats sign up). Enjoy some beach games and pudding shots. We will meet at Marker 96 at 10:30. Remember to bring your favorite float and your own sandwich or sub. The Entertainment Committee will provide fun games, desserts (including Jell-o and pudding shots)!

We are excited to see several new venues opening up soon on the water to where members can drive or boat. Stay tuned for more exciting fun events from the Entertainment Committee!





Looking Ahead -

May

	DAY	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
1	Thursday	7:00-9:00pm	EXCOM Meeting	Cape Coral Power Squadron
5	Monday	7:00-9:00pm	ABC Course begins	Cape Coral Power Squadron
5	Monday	7:00-9:00	Boat Handling begins	Cape Coral Power Squadron
8	Thursday	6:00-7:00pm	Lite Bites &	
		7:00-9:00pm	General Meeting	Cape Coral Power Squadron
11	Sunday		Happy Mothers Day	
14	Wednesday	2:00-4:00pm	Hurricane Preparation for Boaters	Cape Coral Power Squadron
14	Wednesday	7:00-8:00pm	Fishing Group	Cape Coral Power Squadron
15	Thursday	5:00-9:00pm	Member Meet Up	Mexican Lindo 3724 Del Prado
20	Tuesday	6:30pm	Merit Mark Dinner	Cape Coral Power Squadron
21	Wednesday	7:30-9:00pm	ABC Boating Graduation	Cape Coral Power Squadron
22	Thursday	7:00-9:00pm	Intro to Charting Seminar	Cape Coral Power Squadron
26	Monday		Memorial Day	

June

	DAY	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
5	Monday	7:00-9:00pm	EXCOM Meeting	Cape Coral Power Squadron
11	Wednesday	7:00-8:00pm	Fishing Group	Cape Coral Power Squadron
15	Sunday		Happy Fathers Day	
21	Saturday	10:30am-3:00pm	Sanibel Beach Boat Party	Mile Marker 96

July

	DAY	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
3	Thursday	7:00-9:00pm	EXCOM Meeting	Cape Coral Power Squadron
4	Friday		Independence Day!	
9	Wednesday	7:00-8:00pm	Fishing Group	Cape Coral Power Squadron

2025 - 2026 BRIDGE OFFICERS

Commander

Scott Steele, S
commander@ccsaps.org

Executive Officer

John Swift
execofficer@ccsaps.org

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Administrative Officer

Leslie Corte-Real, S
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Secretary

Sherry Carter
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

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Vessel Safety Check

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Tessa Buechler, S

Co-Op Charting

Denny Pearson, AP

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Fishing Group

John D'Esposito

Kayaking Group

Vacant

Membership

Carolyn Token

Member Involvement

Tessa Buechler, S
Barb Riordan, S

Pantry Inventory Mgr

Vacant

Weekday Boaters

Curt Collins

Weekender Boaters

Scott Fergen

GRADES

S - Seaman (aka Boat Handling)
AP - Advanced Pilot (aka Adv Marine Nav)
P - Pilot (aka Marine Nav)
JN - Junior Navigator
N - Navigator (aka Celestial Nav)
SN - Senior Navigation
Indicates the highest level of education completed. Follows the name of the person.



District 22 Conference Courtyard Bradenton Sarasota/Riverfront

2025 SPRING COUNCIL and CONFERENCE

Preliminary SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

This is the Preliminary Schedule, watch for details!

March 22, 2025 - Held at Sarasota Power & Sail Squadron Building

2814 Hyde Park Street, Sarasota, FL 34239

Commander & Officer Meeting - 1030-1200 Lunch Council Meeting -1300-1400

May 2 - 3, 2025 - Held at Courtyard by Marriott Bradenton

100 Riverfront Drive, Bradenton, FL 34205

Friday May 2 – ALL Member Workshop

1300 -1500 – Discussions on iMIS, Marine SEO and Insurance

1600 - 1800 – District Commander's 'Tropical' Social
enjoy tropical libations in the Commander's Suite wearing your tropical attire



Saturday May 3

0800 - 0900 – Coffee & Pastry

0830 – 1200 - Registration Desk Open

0900 -1145 - Roundtables and Seminars

1200 -1330 - Lunch with speaker, Lt Garry Stubbs – History of D22

1300 – 1350 – Registration Desk Open

1345 -1600 – District Conference and Election of Officers

Change of Watch - social 1745 - 1830 / dinner served 1830

Change of Watch Ceremony

Hotel Info: - - - - Courtyard by Marriott – call 888-731-9096 by April 1

The hotel rate is only \$134.00 per night (plus tax)

Must book for 2 nights and state America's Boating Club/United States Power Squadrons for these rates



2025 Spring Conference Meals

Saturday, May 3, 2025

Luncheon – 1200 - River Palm Room

Speaker – D22 History by Lt Garry Stubbs, S

Lunch Buffet - \$25.00

Caesar Salad with Fresh Croutons, Grilled Chicken Breast, Chicken Salad
Served with Croissants and Butter, Dessert
Coffee and Iced Tea

Change of Watch – River Palm Room

Social – 1745, Dinner Served 1830, Change of Watch 1930

Dinner Buffet - \$46.00

Fresh Garden Greens Salad with Assorted Dressing, Pasta Primavera Salad, Caesar Salad
Baked Ziti with Bolognese Sauce, Chicken Breast Marsala
Chef's Vegetable, Herbed Garlic Bread
Chef's Choice Dessert
Fresh Brewed Coffee and Iced Tea

Register for the Conference and Purchase your meals at the District 22 Website.

— americasboatingclub-d22.org —

No login or password needed. Click “About Us”, then “Registration/Purchase” and follow the instructions. (Credit Card required). Or simply click one of these two links:

[Registration/Purchase Page](https://americasboatingclub-d22.org/registration-purchase/)

<https://americasboatingclub-d22.org/registration-purchase/>

No Reservations or Cancellations after 1200 April 25, 2025!