

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB THE BUOYS

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

Issue 10-25

October 2025

Happy October Cape Coral Sail & Power Squadron! Check out Barret Bonden's article about Manatees on page 3 of this newsletter and how you can help protect them and educate your friends and neighbors on these gentle giants. We've got a lot going on this fall and are looking forward to seeing everyone soon.



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

Night, except for



Whatever you've been doing to keep the hurricanes away, please continue. Wouldn't it be wonderful to go through a summer without strapping down your boat and preparing for a storm? I don't want to curse us, we still have a ways to go, but there's hope.

The city of Cape Coral recently gave us the privilege of spending \$1500 to install a water backflow preventer. I think it's another way for them to make more permit dollars. All commercial buildings are now required to have these devices. Here's the interesting part: We tried to get permission to install it next to the building and out of the way. Of course they said we couldn't and it is now installed in front of the building next to the sidewalk. So much for common sense. A few of us took out the pavers for the plumber and then we reinstalled them after the project was completed. We also fixed a few low spots out front. A special thanks to John Barbarino for leading the paver work. I always wondered why John's email address was "brickman." Now I know.

The showings for the squadron have been limited, but we do have one coming up on Monday. As I've said before, the commercial market is currently a little soft. If we don't have anything firm by the end of October we plan to take the building off the market for a few months. We'll relist it after the first of the year.

We're hosting the District 22 meeting on Saturday, October 11th. We set this up long before we found out about Bike Night. Everyone is welcome to attend. See the at the end of this newsletter for more details. This is a one day event. It used to be 2 days in Punta Gorda, but it's been streamlined. There's a Q&A session in the morning and the conference session in the afternoon. Everything should be done by 3 or 3:30 pm so we shouldn't be too impacted by Bike

parking. The best place to park is probably at the old military museum and walk the block and a half to the squadron. The Farmer's Market will be going until 1pm, so there will be some parking behind our building.

It's October and that means Oktoberfest. We are providing the parking duty on Saturday the 18th and Saturday the 25th. We may still have a few open slots. If interested, please let John Swift know. I know John has sent out a few requests. It's 3 hours of work and then free admission, beer, food and fun. Also, we usually get a nice donation to the squadron from the German American club.

In November we will be doing a day at the Fort Myers Boat Show. Our day is Thursday the 13th. We have a booth to promote our squadron to the general public. There will be a sign up sheet distributed. We usually have 3 or 4 people do 2 hour shifts. (4 shifts total) Unfortunately you don't get free beer or food, but you do get free admission to the show.

It's been a pretty calm summer, though we have had a lot of boating activities and social events. Last week we had 35 – 40 people attend the gathering at Slip Away Food Truck Park. A couple of us arrived via boat, but we had a lot of brave souls who drove. Meeting at 3pm has its advantages. It's a really nice place and worth visiting.

Last, but not least, the Boat House is leveled. After all the city BS, something finally got done. To me, it's mind boggling how long it takes for these projects (Yacht Club). I better stop now before I write something politically incorrect.

Have a great October and let me be the first to say Happy Halloween, though Costco already has out the Christmas stuff.

- Scott



Have you harassed a manatee lately?

By Barret Bonden

Sitting at a meeting the other day, the person sitting next to me was telling a story about their neighbor. It seems the neighbor was trying to attract some manatees to their dock with a water hose. So, I asked, did you tell them it was illegal? Unfortunately, I was not surprised when they replied, "I didn't know that." So, then I asked, have you taken America's Boating Course? The answer was "no, I have a captains license."

It seems that in captains' school they must not cover Florida laws. Manatees are a threatened species and are protected by federal and state laws. Under Florida law that type of activity is considered harassment.

In the past it used to be a requirement that all members of the Power Squadron take America's Boating Course. The course provided all members with a baseline of knowledge. Not just about boating in general, but information about federal, state, and local laws along with information about what you need to know about local waters.

So, what do all of us in Florida need to know about manatees? Lots, but let's look at the basic protections as Lee County has its fair share of manatees. We have so many manatees for two reasons, the sea grass and the powerplant. When the snowbirds come south, the manatees migrate to the powerplant between the Caloosahatchee and Orange rivers where they find warm water in the winter months.

The many speed zones throughout the county are there specifically for the protection of manatees and in many cases the seagrass they eat. It's a good idea to know where those zones are. You can download a PDF from MyFWC.com of the state and federal manatee protection areas, <https://myfwc.com/media/7302/leempz-brammaps.pdf>.

If you don't want to be guilty of harassment, DO NOT:

- give food to manatees,
- use water to attract manatees to your boat, dock, or marina (etc.) where manatees may be harmed,
- separate a cow and her calf,
- disturb manatee mating herds,
- pursue manatees or chase them from warm water sites,
- disturb resting manatees,
- hit, injure, or harm manatees,
- jump on, stand on, hold on to, or ride manatees,
- grab or kick manatees,
- block a manatee's path if one or more moves

toward you,

- hunt or kill manatees,
- use your vessel to pursue or harass manatees,
- "fish" for or attempt to hook or catch manatees.

Under the law, any act that disrupts a manatee's normal behavior is punishable by a fine of up to \$50,000, one year imprisonment, or both.

If you witness any of these actions you can report them to Wildlife Alert and get a reward. Wildlife Alert is a nonprofit program created to encourage citizens to report fish, wildlife and boating violations.

To report these activities you can either call the Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-FWCC (888-404-3922 or submit a tip at MyFWC.com/WildlifeAlert.

Rewards up to \$1,000 are offered for various violations. Pictures and videos are helpful in the prosecution of the offenders.

In the \$300 Reward category are,

- Level Two Violations as defined in F.S. 379.401 such as:
 - o Unlawfully taking small game or any saltwater finfish, shellfish, or crustaceans,
 - o Feeding or enticement of alligators or crocodiles,
 - o Molesting endangered/threatened species,
 - o Taking protected wildlife species (i.e. migratory birds)
- Possession of captive wildlife without the required permit
- Boating under the influence (BUI)
- Misdemeanor violation of the Florida litter law

To learn more about manatees visit, <https://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/profiles/mammals/aquatic/florida-manatee>

If you haven't taken America's Boating Course here in Cape Coral, please consider doing so as you might be surprised by what else you might learn.

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. For more local information consider picking up a copy of Barret Bonden's Local Knowledge Recommended - Things You Wish Someone Had Told You About Boating Here! Available at the office.



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

SQUADRON EDUCATION OFFICER (SEO)

So far, so good!

Only two months to go before end of hurricane season. Even though it's been quiet in our little corner of the world, we need to remain vigilant. Historically, October has been the peak month for tropical cyclones here in Florida. They tend to form closer to us in the Caribbean or Gulf. This means we won't get as long a notice, so be sure you're ready to implement your plan.

The October education offerings are in place and available for registration. Here's a synopsis:

1. Boat Handling: Rules of the Road seminar will be on Tuesday, October 7, 2025, at 7 PM in room 202. This is the first of the Boat Handling two-hour seminars. It provides an introduction to all the rules and regulations that all boaters must follow when on the water. Attendees will also be provided with a digital copy of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGS). All boaters are expected to be familiar with rules. Indeed, anyone renewing a boat registration must attest to this. And any vessel of 39.4 ft (12 m) or greater must carry a copy, either paper or digital (digital versions must be produced within one minute of request from law enforcement) of the COLREGS on board (this applies to a small subset of our members). Online registration is available online at the Squadron website from the Classes button;

2. Local Waters Seminar will be held Tuesday, October 14, 2025 at 7 PM in room 202. In a mere two hours you will be introduced to the area's history and specific boating information not found anywhere else. Registration available online at the Squadron website from the Events/Seminars button and there are still plenty of seats available;

3. Navigating SW Florida: A Guide for Recreational Boaters seminar series starts Tuesday, October 21, 2025 at 2 PM in room 203. This six-week series of two-hour classes provides a more in-depth treatise of the material covered in the Local Waters Seminar. In addition, it includes detailed information on how to navigate using computers, tablets, and smart phones. Registration is available online at the Squadron website from the Classes button;

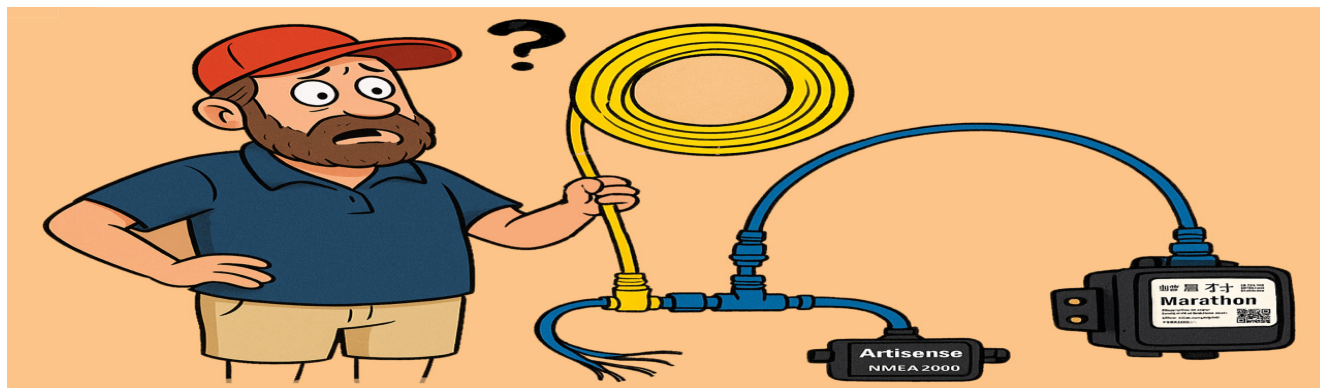
4. Marine Navigation course will begin Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at 7 PM in room 203. This series of eight two-hour classes provides a very detailed study into electronic navigation techniques. The skills learned in this course can be immediately applied to safe boating in our local area. Visit areas you've never been to with confidence knowing that you can get there and back safely. Registration is available online at the Squadron website using from the Classes button.

ABC begins on November 3, and the docket for seminars and courses, all starting in January 2026, will be posted in the next Buoys. The full calendar is available on the Squadron website.

Contact me with any questions or if you'd like something specifically offered. I'll be glad to chat with you.

Until next time...

Integrating Marine Electronics – Using NMEA 0183 & 2000

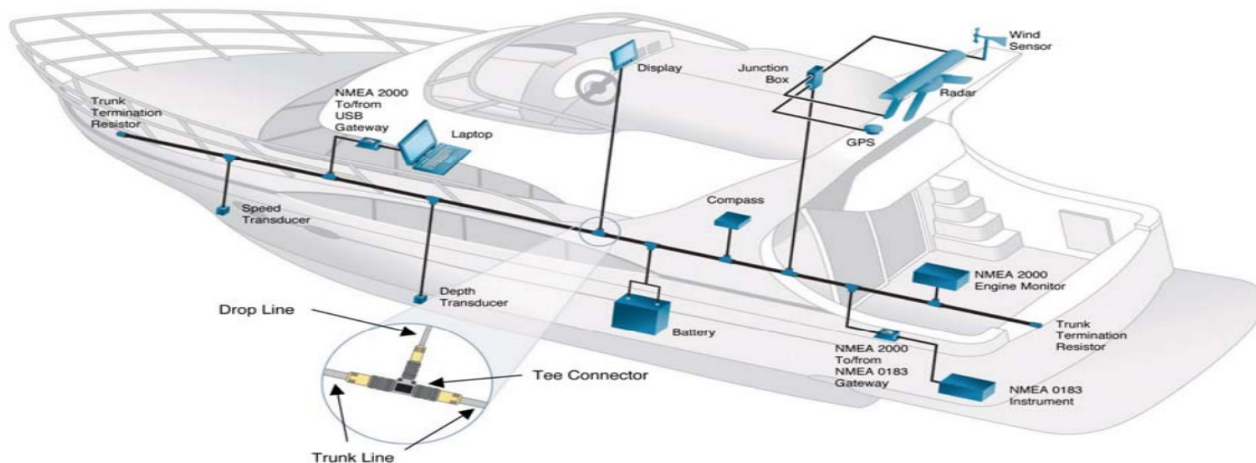


On Thursday, October 9, we will be presenting a new Seminar under final development by the Boat Systems Committee (BSC). Virtually all new boats in the 25' and above class come equipped with GPS, Chart Plotter or MFD capabilities, and other instrumentation. In most cases, some of the magic that helps bring all this information together is provided by a NEMA2000 electronic network. Focus of this seminar includes what is NEMA2000, what capabilities does it enable, and how it all works. We will cover the basic concepts of networking in the marine environment, some implementation basics and some hints on what to look for when the display goes blank. Does your Chart Plotter also display Engine parameters? We'll cover some additions you may wish to consider to enhance your operational awareness while underway. Ever wondered how you could add AIS to your helm? We'll cover the basics.

There is no test at the end of this seminar, but there is a survey. The BSC needs your input on how deep into this technology you, the members, are interested in digging.

Thursday, October 9, 2-4PM in Room 203.

Please log your interest on ticketleap at NMEA2000 Seminar for our tracking and there is no charge.



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>



Americas Boating Club at the Fort Myers's Boat Show

Can YOU help?

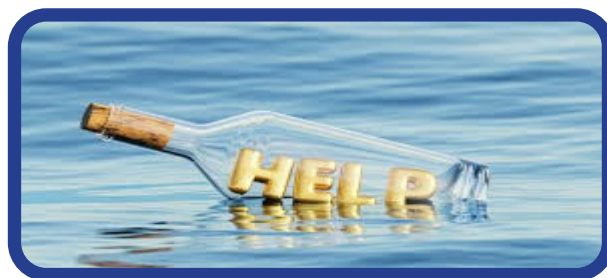


2025



Our Squadron is responsible for staffing the America's Boating Club booth on one of the four days of the 2025 Fort Myers Boat Show. Our day this year will be Thursday, 11/13. The show runs from Nov 13-16 in downtown Fort Myers. We have three (3) staffing slots available on Thursday for each of three shifts running 12-2, 2-4, and 4-6. Members staffing the booth are granted free access to the Show on that same day and earn Merit Mark hours for their volunteer time. If you are interested and feel you are sufficiently experienced with CCSAPS operations to represent our club's functions with Boat Show visitors, please send a note to John Swift, at Execofficer@ccsaps.org with which slots you could be available to fill. For more information on the boat show, please check out the link: <https://goboatingflorida.com/boating-shows/2025-fort-myers-boat-show/>

We need YOU!



Can you help the Squadron by volunteering as a Duty Officer? It's not as daunting as it sounds and can be quite fun plus you learn a lot while helping out our squadron and our community. The help needed is manning the squadron desk during our open hours which are Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 9:00am- 12:00pm We only need you two shifts a month. We will train you in this vital and critical function of our squadron.

Please contact Leslie Corte-Real, Squadron Administrative Officer at adminofficer@ccsaps.org or call Leslie at 508-965-3135.



Reverse Osmosis Plant Tour

The Cape Coral Reverse Osmosis Plant is internationally recognized as a pioneer and one of the leaders in reverse osmosis treatment technology. Our squadron has a tour reserved for about an hour on:

Monday, November 17, 2025 , 1:00-2:00pm

2090 SW 32nd St. Cape Coral

Free, but must sign up on ticket leap:

<https://www.ticketleap.events/tickets/ccsaps/reverse-osmosis-plant-tour>



Welcome New Members!

Tom Rostron

Jay Cohen

Jackie Cohen

John Bennett

Terri Bennett

AMERICA'S
BOATING
CLUB



Our Southwest Florida Boating Seminar is Back!

Our most popular seminar, Southwest Florida Boating, will be offered on Tuesday October 14th from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The seminar covers many of the things people have told us they wish they knew before heading out on our waters.

Based on the book by member Tom Dawson, Barret Bonden's Local Knowledge Recommended - Things You Wish Someone Had Told You About Boating Here! The seminar helps attendees to understand how our local waters have been shaped by changes that happened across Florida beginning in the late 1880's. This is followed by some information boaters need to know to stay safe on our crowded waterways. Then the presenters take a guided tour of how to get safely to many of popular spots in Lee County.

Members Josh Wurtsbaugh and Mike Carter will be your hosts for this event. Both bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the seminar. Charts and books will be available for sale in our Ships Store after the seminar.

Registration is available on line at www.ccsaps.org look for the Events/Seminar button. Cost per person is \$15.00 and seating is limited, so preregistration is recommended. The session will be held in classroom 202, so parking behind the building is recommend as the stairs to the second floor are found inside the rear door.

Bring a friend or new neighbor, it is a good way to introduce them to our club!



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

Copies available at the office.





Looking Ahead



October

	DAY	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
2	Thursday	7:00-9:00pm	EXCOM Meeting	Cape Coral Power Squadron
7	Tuesday	7:00-9:00pm	Boat Handling Seminar	Cape Coral Power Squadron
7	Tuesday	7:00-9:00pm	Marine Navigation begins	Cape Coral Power Squadron
8	Wednesday	6:00-8:00pm	Fishing Group	Cape Coral Power Squadron
9	Thursday	2:00-4:00pm	Integrating Marine Elec	Cape Coral Power Squadron
11	Saturday	9:30-2:30pm	One Day Fall Conference	Cape Coral Power Squadron
13	Monday		Happy Columbus Day!	
14	Tuesday	7:00-9:00pm	SW FL Boating Seminar	Cape Coral Power Squadron
21	Tuesday	7:00-9:00pm	Navigating SW FL begins	Cape Coral Power Squadron
31	Friday		Happy Halloween!	

November

	DAY	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
2	Sunday		Day Light Saving Time Ends	
3	Monday	7:00-9:00pm	ABC Class Begins	Cape Coral Power Squadron
5	Wednesday	6:30pm	Member Meet Up	Cape Cabaret
6	Thursday	7:00-9:00pm	EXCOM Meeting	Cape Coral Power Squadron
11	Tuesday		Happy Veterans Day!	
12	Wednesday	6:00-8:00pm	Fishing Group	Cape Coral Power Squadron
13	Thursday	6:00-7:00pm	Lite Bites (order by 11/11)	Cape Coral Power Squadron
		7:00-9:00pm	General Meeting	
17	Monday	1:00-2:00pm	Reverse Osmosis Plant Tour	2090 SW 32nd St. Cape Coral
19	Wednesday	7:30-9:00pm	ABC Graduation	Cape Coral Power Squadron
27	Thursday		Happy Thanksgiving!	

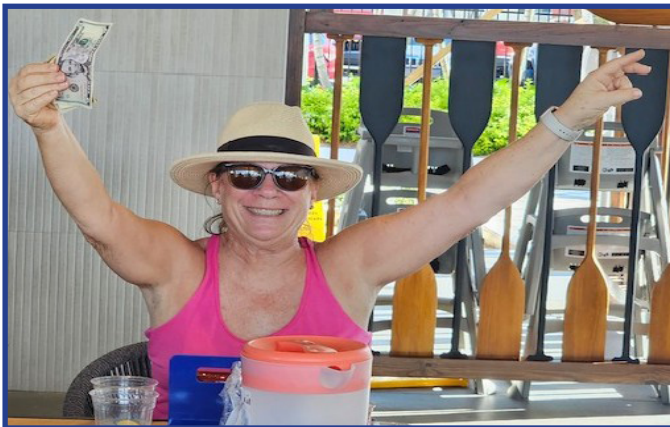
December

	DAY	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
4	Thursday	7:00-9:00pm	EXCOM Meeting	Cape Coral Power Squadron
10	Wednesday	6:00-8:00pm	Fishing Group	Cape Coral Power Squadron
12	Friday	6:00-10:00pm	Holiday Party	Cape Coral Power Squadron
16	Tuesday	7:00-9:00pm	SW Boating Seminar	Cape Coral Power Squadron
25	Thursday		Merry Christmas!	

Entertainment Committee and the Fun Report

- Karen Collins

SEPTEMBER: The Entertainment committee just hosted a fantastic member meet up at the Slip Away food truck park. We had an amazing day with a beautiful breeze. This proved to be a great venue, as our members can boat, drive, walk or Uber too! We had an astonishing 34 members come! We had a few folks come up to inquire about joining our club as they saw it on the Slip Aways Facebook page. Gotta love the power of social media. The general manager wants to partner with CCSPS to host future events!



OCTOBER- 70'S PARTY- Bummer we had to cancel due to low interest. We are finding people want to meet up at public venues instead of hanging out at the club.

NOVEMBER 5th- Cape Cabaret- DEB & THE DYNAMICS!

Call ahead to Cape Cabaret and reserve your seat for this show, let them know you are with the CCSPS. This will for sure be a sell out event. Deb & the Dynamics is a great band to dance and listen to. This is a guaranteed fun night you don't want to miss! See flyer at end of newsletter for more info.

DECEMBER- 12TH CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

This year is all about gratitude and giving back! We will have a celebration at the Power Squadron and are asking our members to bring an appetizer to share along with a bag full of groceries we will be donating to the Cape Coral Caring Center. See flyer at the end of newsletter for more info.



Boating Group Happenings Weekenders

The Weekenders enjoyed a trip on an outing with 12 people and four boats at Doc Ford's in late August. For more information or ideas, please contact Scott Fergen, scottfergen@gmail.com.



The Weekenders also enjoyed a wonderful outing on September 13th at Cabbage Key. The weather was perfect with lots of sun and very little wind. Four boats and 15 sailors joined in on the fun!



The Weekenders had even more fun the last week end of September at Deep Lagoon in Fort Myers with fantastic service and delicious food.



Weekdayers

We had 4 boats and 15 people on August 26th for an outing to Pink Shell. What a great day! For more info or ideas for future trips, please contact Curt Collins, fzq907@gmail.com.



Cruise and Rendezvous

We are a group with sleep-aboard boats, both slow and fast. We take 2-3 night trips each month to area marinas, up and down the West coast. Sometimes we head to the East coast for little longer, say 5-6 days. We'd love for you to join us! For information on Cruise and Rendezvous, call Phil Kryger at 847-997-5683.

Co-op Charting

Denny Pearson is currently on the District 22 Cooperative Charting Working Committee. The committee is in the process of reviewing Training and ATON Survey functions as a result of the insurance issues that surfaced last November. The loss of insurance has stopped survey runs across the District. Denny is hopeful that we will be able to restart a modified version of ATON survey runs this winter.

Farmer's Market

Mike and Sherry Carter are looking forward to participating again at the Cape Coral Farmer's Market later this fall. We are excited that we will have a new fishing chart for sale which will be available at the Farmer's Market as well as our Ship's Store. We are looking forward to spreading the word about our upcoming SW Florida Boating Seminars in both October and December. If you are interested in more information on the Farmer's Market please contact Mike at farmmarket2@ccsaps.org.



2025 - 2026 BRIDGE OFFICERS

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Commander's Aide

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Curt Collins

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Assistant SEO

Antal "Tony" Zsupan, P

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Edwin Estes

Treasurer

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Assistant Treasurer

Gary Farwick

Building Manager

Terry Rosenstrauch
Assistant Building Manger

Larry Rich, SN

Rental Manager

Allen Casteran
Assistant Rental Manager

Vacant

Chaplain

Tessa Buechler, S

Executive Dept.

Vessel Safety Check

Craig Buechler, S
Tessa Buechler, S

Co-Op Charting

Denny Pearson, AP

Farmer's Market

Mike Carter

CERT and SERAT Coord.

Vacant

Media Relations

Vacant

Ship's Store

Vacant

Administrative Dept.

Membership

Carolyn Token

Entertainment Committee

Karen Collins

Weekday Boaters

Curt Collins

Weekender Boaters

Scott Fergen

Cruise and Rendezvous

Phillip Kryger

Fishing Group

John D' Esposito

Kayaking Group

Vacant

Pantry Inventory Mgr

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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 person

CAPE CABARET

Dining Dancing
Live Music

JOIN US TO SEE THE FABULOUS...

DEB & THE DYNAMICS

NOVEMBER 5TH AT 6:30 PM

BOOK YOUR SEATS NOW ONLINE TODAY
DIRECTLY WITH CAPE CABARET
[HTTPS://CAPECABARET.COM/SHOWS-CALENDAR](https://CAPECABARET.COM/SHOWS-CALENDAR)

CHOOSE TABLE NUMBERS 25-28 OR 35-38 (OR CLOSE BY)

>>>> FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE >>>>

CAPE CABARET
4725 VINCENNES BLVD
CAPE CORAL, FL
239-549-3000

THIS IS A PAY AS YOU GO EVENT



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A JOYOUS

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION!

December 12th at 6pm

917 SE 47TH TER, CAPE CORAL, FL

**Please bring an appetizer or
dessert to share along with
a grocery bag of dry &
canned goods**

All food donations
will go to the

 **Cape Coral Caring Center**

**RSVP on TicketLeap
today!**



capecoralcaringcenter.org

District 22 Fall Conference

Saturday 11 October

All Bridge Officers, Delegates and Squadron Members
are encouraged to attend our ***first '1 Day'***
at

Cape Coral Sail and Power Squadron Building

917 SE 47th Terrace, Cape Coral, FL 33904

Registration 0930

Town Hall/Governing Board reports 1000 - 1130

Lunch Buffet 1130 - 1230

catered by Farmer Joes of Cape Coral - \$15.

Advance registration and payment required -

Access the webpage at **americasboatingclub-d22.org**

Sign in NOT required

Once there, select **About Us** from the menu

Scroll to **Registration/Purchase**

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

The registration page will begin 19 September and close 3 October

Late registrations cannot be accommodated.

Conference Meeting – 1245 til done

Any questions or issues, please email Ed Maxwell at

edandsuemaxwell@gmail.com

